THE CRITIC

Serving the student voice of the Northeast Kingdom

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Stolen laptop still a major concern for officials

By LAURA SULLIVAN
CRITIC STAFF

The laptop that was stolen from a staff member's vehicle has been the focus of Vermont State College (VSC) officials who are working to update security issues.

With identity theft a potential problem, new initiatives are being put into place to protect VSC students, staff and faculty. Linda Hilton, Chief Information Officer, said that there have been no incidents reported so far.

Many students are concerned that their personal information can be used and identities will be stolen. In response to this concern, the Chancellor, Robert Clark, sent out a memorandum to the VSC community.

"We suggest that, as a precaution, employees and students consider placing a fraud alert on their credit reporting accounts," he said.

The chancellor answered the big question as to why it took so long for people to hear of the incident.

"We had to work with many employees across the VSC to review possible email exchanges over a long time frame. We also wanted to make sure we were communicating as accurately and completely as possible; we apologize that this took three weeks," he said.

Within an hour after the incident, the network was blocked and laptop passwords were changed. Although the nature of what was on the computer is unclear, officials from VSC stated that the laptop con-

SEE 'STOLEN LAPTOP' ON PG 2

Lyndon State College rugby club suspended by school president

By CALEB BYERLY
CRITIC STAFF

The LSC rugby club has been suspended from all activity due to allegations of underage drinking and hazing violations. In a message to the LSC students, faculty and staff, President Carol A. Moore said the LSC Rugby Club was under "temporary suspension pending the outcome of the investigation."

According to the mass email, "This decision is a preventative and disciplinary measure."

LSC Rugby players were outraged over the news. An LSC rugby player, who asked not to be named, said the alleged hazing incident consisted of new players laying on the ground and having beer poured on them. Later they were to run an obstacle course, which involved of running across a log and spinning in a circle.

"The process was entirely voluntary," the player said, "No one was forced to do any of that."

President of the Student Government, Lars Christensen, declined to comment on the situation. Moore could not be reached for comment.

"It is important for all our athletic teams and student organizations to remember that all forms of hazing, on or off campus, will not be tolerated", according to the email message from Moore.

The LSC Code of Conduct states, "The administration may, at its discretion, bring changes against any student who engages in dangerous behavior and is in serious violation of the college's rules and regulations."

FRESHMEN...EVERYWHERE...

Courtesy Photo

Lyndon State College Class of 2010's new arrivals pose for a photo just after convocation festivities ended. The 513 students marks the fourth year in a row that LSC has started off with more than 500 incoming freshmen.

Vermont women-owned firms see slight rise in sales, overall growth

By JOSHUA DAMASO
CRITIC STAFF

LYNDON---A report released from the U.S. Small Business Association's (SBA) Office of Advocacy showed that of 52 geographical locations, Vermont scored in the bottom 50 percentile in terms of women-owned businesses growth.

The Green Mountain State also ranked in the bottom 50 percentile in total receipt growth rates, according to the study that was conducted between 1997 and 2002.

Dr. Ying Lowery, SBA Office of Advocacy senior economist on women and minority-owned businesses, conducted the study and compared figures from the 50 states, as well the District of Columbia and the United States, collectively.

According to the figures received from the SBA's Web site Vermont, which ranked 40th overall, increased its number of women-owned businesses by 11.5 percent – a little more than two percent lower than the increase rate seen in neighboring New Hampshire, which ranked 31st overall during the same span of time.

Data collected from the report also showed that average income per capita of female business owners in Vermont between 1997 and 2002 was $22,371, with an average household income of $43,914. The SBA's report showed that females who owned businesses in the state were, on average, responsible for 51 percent of their household's total income.

As for total receipt growth rate from 1997 to 2002, Vermont and New Hampshire were separated by over 35 percent as New Hampshire ranked first in the U.S. with a 37.2 percent growth rate. Vermont gained only 1.4 percent in the same category, perhaps raising eyebrows about the number of Vermont shoppers who go to New Hampshire, where there is no sales tax, to purchase items.

The report also showed that there were 18,989 women-owned firms in Vermont, with $1.45 billion in sales. Of the 18,989 firms, 13.1 percent held a total of 14,996 company employees.

In 2002, there were 39,466 men-owned firms in Vermont, accounting for over $15.9 billion in sales, 10,325 of which held employees. Men-owned firms accounted for $2.74 billion in employee payroll, while women-owned firms were responsible for nearly $285 million in employee payroll.

Community Snapshot

Joshua Damaso, Critic Staff

LYDONVILLE'S BANDSTAND PARK

News Briefs:

Lyndon State College's Quimby Gallery Opened it's season with a Catherine Bates Exhibit. The next Quimby show will be the Faculty Pallet Project, an exhibit of the Lyndon's faculty participation in the Vermont Arts Council's statewide Pallets of Vermont initiative.

There are 513 new students to Lyndon State this semester (including 307 first-time freshmen)There were also 352 new student housing deposits received vs. last year's 330.

Orientation for new students was held from September 2-4, which included the welcome address from David Johnston. The First Year Program also has scheduled the Major Activity Day, where students get acquainted with faculty and staff from their particular major.

The annual State of the College Address reviewing the school's status for the academic year will be on October 5, at 12:30 p.m. in the Burke Mountain Room.

The annual college-wide retreat will be coming up on October 20. This all day event will focus on the future of the college and the approaching centennial.

Faculty Briefs:

Alan Giese, Professor of Biology, will be joining the science department this year with a Ph.D in Genetics, Ecology, and Evolution from Arizona State University.

David Plazek, Professor of Political Science, recently completed his Ph.D at West Virginia University.

Margaret Ronald, Professor of Education has a Ph.D in International and Intercultural Development Education from Florida State University. She will be working in the Graduate Education Program and will be arriving in October.

Meri Stiles, Professor of Human Services recently received her Ph.D from the University of Buffalo. Dr. Stiles will begin working at LSC in the spring of 2007.

LSC would like to welcome back Paul Searls on full-time as an assistant professor in the Social Science Department. Also returning for another year in the Television Studies Department is Elizabeth Wheeler.

Candidates gear up for 2006 election

By ELIZABETH STRAUSS
CRITIC STAFF

With the primary election in the past, and November quickly approaching it's time to take a look at the two major candidates for Governor in Vermont. On the republican ticket is current Governor Jim Douglas. Running for the Democrats is Scudder Parker. Before you mark your ballot, by picking the candidate whose name you recognize, or the man with the coolest nickname, it's a good idea to see just who it is you are voting for. As an elected official, the governor works for you, the voter. Get to know the man you will vote to hire in November.

The Incumbent

James H. Douglas, has been Governor of Vermont since 2003, when he narrowly defeated Democrat Doug Racine. He was born in Springfield, Mass., June 12, 1952. He graduated from Middlebury College, where he was active in the campus republican organization, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Russian Studies. He continues to use his knowledge of Russian including establishing a sister-city relationship with Karelia, Russia.

Governor Douglas was elected to the Vermont House of Representatives in 1972 and became the House Majority Leader during his third two year term at the age of 25.

He left the house in 1979 to become a top aid to Governor Snelling. In 1980 he was elected Secretary of State, a position he held until 1992. In 1994 he became state treasurer, gaining an impressive 94%of the vote. He remained as treasurer until being elected Governor in 2002.

Outside of politics, Jim Douglas is involved in many community organizations including being a past president of the Addison County Chamber of Commerce and Porter Medical Center.

He resides in Middlebury with his wife Dorothy. He has two grown sons, Matthew and Andrew.

The Challenger

Scudder Parker was born in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont on Aug. 16, 1943, where he helped on the family farm in Danville as a young boy. He attended Williams College and graduated Magna Cum Laude and Phi Beta Kappa, with a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature in 1965. He then attended Union Theological Seminary and received a Master's in Divinity, cum laude in 1968.

From 1969 until 1990 he was an ordained minister in Vermont serving through the years on numerous local boards including serving as an organizer of the Emergency Food Shelf in St. Johnsbury, from 1978-1981, Organizer , Chair and Board Member of North Country Recycling from 1977-1981. He was also a board member of the Northeast Kingdom Coalition for Children and Youth from 1979-1981, as well as being involved with other community and religious organizations.

From 1981- 1988 Scudder Parke served as a Vermont State Senator from Caledonia County. More recently he has served as the director of the Energy Efficiency Division of Vermont Public Service from 1990-2003 and was an Independent Energy Consultant from 2003-2004. He has also been involved with Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility.

Scudder currently resides in Middlesex with his wife Susan Sussman. They have two daughters Katie and Emily.

War on Drugs keeping students out of college

WASHINGTON, DC - Thousands of would-be students won't be joining their peers on college campuses across the country this semester because they were convicted of drug offenses and automatically lost their financial aid under a little-known federal law.

Students for Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP), a group with chapters on more than 70 campuses across the country, has been working to overturn the penalty since it was enacted and recently filed a class action lawsuit to challenge its constitutionality.

"Students are tired of having our access to education destroyed as collateral damage in the War on Drugs," said Kris Krane, SSDP's executive director. "For too long, the Drug War has been waged supposedly to protect young people. But we know firsthand that these punitive policies hurt us instead of help us. We won't allow this war to be waged in our names any longer."

In addition to lobbying for changes in federal law, SSDP students also work to foster sensible drug policies on their own campuses. Some chapters have worked to stop automatic dorm expulsions, to eliminate parental notification policies, and to prevent schools from punishing student more harshly for marijuana than for underage drinking.

This fall, SSDP is hosting an international conference and congressional lobby day in Washington, DC, November 17-19. Hundreds of students are expected to converge on the nation's capital to learn, lobby, and network with one-another.

"Young people have had it with the War on Drugs. This is our opportunity to take our concerns directly to our lawmakers' doorsteps," said Krane.

Students for Sensible Drug Policy, a national organization with college and high school chapters, is committed to providing education on harms caused by the War on Drugs, working to involve youth in the political process, and promoting an open, honest, and rational discussion of alternative solutions to our nation's drug problems.

Moore withdraws from Framingham State College

By KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
CRITIC STAFF

Last April the Critic reported that LSC President, Carol Moore, was being considered as a finalist for the position of president at Framingham State College in Massachusetts. Moore withdrew from the selection pool.

"I didn't think it was a good fit for me in terms of what they were looking for," Moore said.

Moore had expressed a desire to work in the same state as her husband. Moore's husband works at North Eastern University in Boston and the commute is strenuous, Moore said.

Even though it is stressful, Moore has been commuting for years between LSC and Boston and has become accustomed to it.

Moore plans to be around for LSC's 100th anniversary in 2011, Moore said.

She also plans to continue with the capitol raising campaign she has talked about in the past. LSC is in need of funds and the campaign would have been continued by her successor if she had taken the job at Framingham, Moore said.

According to the April, 2006 issue of the Critic, Moore was one of the three finalists after Claudia Limbert, President of the Mississippi University for Women withdrew.

Along with Moore, the other finalists were Elza Nunez, the Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs for the University of Maine, and Timothy Flanagan, the Provost and Academic Vice President of the State University of New York Brockport.

According to Framingham's website, Flanagan is the current President of Framingham State College.

STOLEN LAPTOP:

Continued from Pg. 1

tained "archived emails from the past seven years, maybe containing personal information such as social security numbers, date of birth, [and] payroll information."

When information like is lost or stolen many potential victims place a fraud alert on a personal their credit report so information isn't stolen and identities aren't use falsely. Many faculty, staff and students were concerned about the future of adding security precautions for VSC staff/faculty and students.

Recently, Vermont Legislature passed a statement involving data security, further protections, and requirements for notifying someone in an event of a security break. This came at a time when VSC needed to update their procedures and security information.

Another precaution that VSC has taken is implementing a Security Development and Implementation plan. VSC plans to develop an information sensitivity policy that will determine such things as how sensitive the material is, establish a system to lock down on critical servers, remove sensitive date from employee laptops, develop record retention policy, and develop incident security response.

A group of employees have committed to being part of the Security Policy Steering Committee that oversees the Security Development and Implication information. Although this incident happened last February, VSC officials are working hard to help the VSC community, understanding that personal information could be given without a victim knowing. VSC officials are looking to help VSC faculty, students and staff in giving them the best protection they can offer.

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The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must be signed and include the author's phone number and address. *The Critic* will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. *The Critic* reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:

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College applicant bubble on the brink of bursting

By JULIE STEINBERG
Daily Pennsylvanian (U. Penn)

University of Pennsylvania freshman Douglas Halperin got in to Penn during the most competitive admissions season in the University's history.

His mom -- Debra Halperin -- faced much better odds when she was admitted in 1979. And when Douglas' sister Katie applies to colleges in 2008, her chances of getting in might be much better than her brother's and could look more like her mom's.

This is because Katie will apply to college during a steep decline in the number of graduating high school seniors, a decline that will likely change the face of higher education.

For the past 10 years, a swell in the number of students applying to college has made the admissions process extremely competitive.

All that is about to change.

Most of the "baby boomletter" generation -- those born in the 1980s and early 1990s -- will have degrees by 2009. After that, the number of new high-school graduates will start to decline.

And a shrinking applicant pool means that getting into many colleges will get easier.

Though the number of new high-school graduates is projected to drop 4 percent in 2009, Northeastern states will experience an even steeper decline. The Department of Education predicts a 10-percent decline in Pennsylvania, a figure that could spell trouble for schools that aren't exactly awash in applicants today.

Yet University officials say the decline will not affect the competitiveness of Penn's admissions.

"Penn will not be affected much since Penn already has more than seven applicants for every one student we admit," said Bernard Lentz, who is responsible for analyzing statistics about Penn.

Lentz added that the schools most affected by the decline would be those "that already have difficulty filling their incoming class."

Large numbers of students are still likely to apply to the nation's top schools, leaving Penn with a comfortable number of applicants.

Schools that will face challenges will likely be smaller, private colleges.

But some of these universities have already implemented strategies to stave off the coming decline in applicants.

Chestnut Hill College, for example, went co-ed in 2003, increasing its number of potential applicants.

The University of the Arts also foresaw the problem and enacted measures to combat the effects.

"In 2001, we realized what would happen after 2009, when less kids would be graduating," Director of Financial Aid Chris Pesotski said. "We've tried to extend our geographical presence in the South and the Midwest, where the decline won't be as high."

Pesotski said more recruiters have also been sent internationally, primarily to Korea and Japan, to attract more students and sustain application rates. He said the measures have been successful, culminating in a dramatic increase in applications from international students as well as U.S. students from states other than Pennsylvania.

Yet some education officials don't expect the decline to pose a significant problem. They believe that other measures will offset some of the detrimental implications for smaller schools.

The National Center for Education Statistics, for example, projects that undergraduate enrollment will continue to swell, according to Frank Balz, a spokesman for the National Association for Independent Colleges and Universities, an advocacy group.

An influx of immigrants to the U.S., he said, will constitute a "significant portion of enrollment growth," but are not included in predictions of the decline in graduating high school students.

Crummy jobs teach important lessons

By MARY WHEELER
CRITIC STAFF

I'll be honest. Like many young people, I've had my fair share of crummy summer jobs, but last summer by far was the worst. I was a housekeeper at an inn in my hometown, where I spent my mornings unclogging toilets, making beds, and delivering clean towels to guests.

At first it didn't sound like a very difficult gig. I would make $8.50 an hour, be done by 2:00 p.m., and since I was living with my parents, I would be able to pocket most of what I earned.

However, working close to fifty hours a week, became more of a prison sentence than an actual job, and I began to evaluate whether I really wanted to spend my summer doing this.

To the general public, inns would appear to be classier than motels. Mainly because the name inn sounds fancier and they're more expensive to stay in, but besides that, inns and motels are about the same. But just because inns are more expensive, doesn't mean the people who stay in them are classier.

I can't remember the number of times I had to clean up vomit from some drunken bridal party or pick up some smelly baby's diaper that had been carelessly left under the bed. I learned in my experiences as a housekeeper that vomit is a lot harder to clean out of carpets then I ever could have imagined, especially if it's alcohol. Not only is red wine nearly impossible to remove from a beige carpet, but the carpet then reeks for days.

Anything worse then cleaning up vomit, would be taking out the trash. You couldn't help but look in and notice all the presents people would leave for you. Used condoms, three day old Chinese food, and even dirty socks.

Or some people would wash their dogs in the bathtubs, and leave who ever was cleaning the bathroom with a nice little surprise when they pushed back the shower curtain.

But being a housekeeper wasn't all bad. In a strange way there were parts of it I actually enjoyed. Like making the beds, there was something about tucking in the cotton blankets and fluffing the pillows that put me in a good mood.

By the end of the summer, I must have cleaned over 400 toilets and made close to 1,000 beds. As monotonous as the job got, I had a tendency of zoning out, just like in class. It allowed me to get through the job while keeping my sanity.

As I look back on my work experiences, I remember something my mother once told me. She said it takes a big person to do small things and that these so called crummy jobs in fact help a lot of people.

Employers have always been impressed with the work I had done, and while none of it was glamorous, it shows your committment to something. I learned that crummy jobs like these don't last forever and if you have the heart to stick it out, you may even learn something from the experience.

A stress free semester

By CRYSTAL JAMES
Critic Staff

As our new surroundings set in, homework piles up, and weather turns frigid, we tend to lose much of the motivation and composure that we once promised ourselves to keep. Why is stress such a contributing factor to our everyday lives? College is supposed to be one of the most lively and enjoyable experiences; living easy before we get to the real world. Yet while we are supposedly residing in the "fake world" many of us are experiencing very real responsibilities.

Entering a new year of college, whether it is your first, last, or somewhere in the middle, is always a thrilling time. We meet new friends, enroll in new classes, maybe learn a new drinking game or two and all the while try to juggle them sanely. Every now and then it is easy to slip off track and before we know it deadlines have past, employers are mad, and we are stressed.

The pattern seems inevitable but it is actually quite avoidable. What we don't realize is that most of our stress comes from the pressure we put on ourselves. Instead of beating ourselves up over something, we need to acknowledge that though we may have messed up, it is one small factor in our lives and move on.

Another way to stay grounded throughout a hectic semester is to set deadlines for ourselves. It may sound redundant in an environment full of deadlines set by teachers, employers, and maybe even parents, but it is still important to set them for ourselves. Though it is easy to want to skip class due to a party we may have stayed at a little too late, it is important to create a reasonable balance between work and play. It also helps if we reward our successful efforts with some recreation time in order to make sure we are not feeling overwhelmed.

One of the most important things is to try and stay healthy. If the freezing temperatures aren't bringing us down, chances are something else will. Being sick not only makes you feel miserable but it makes it easy to fall behind in school work and miss classes.

So take some time out this semester to relax and have fun.

Flom looks to increase interest in theater program

By KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
CRITIC STAFF

LSC has an enthusiastic new Theater professor this semester. Teaching at LSC will be Theater Professor, Jonathan Flom's first job as a professor outside of Pennsylvania State College where he graduated.

The fact that LSC is still developing its theater program is what attracted him to the college. He doesn't want to be a cog in a machine; he is interested in working to develop the theater program and make students aware of the fact that there is a theater minor available, Flom said.

One of Flom's long term goals is to make LSC known for its theater program, much the same way as it is known for its meterological and television studies programs. He hopes to someday have the theater department training people to go into the field.

As for a short term goal, he is content to deliver a quality liberal education to students interested in theater, Flom said.

Flom would also like to make further developments on the curriculum for the theater minor LSC offers. Some of the students Flom asked about it weren't aware that it existed.

Even if few changes are made to the curriculum, one change that will be made is people's awareness of the program, Flom said. "I tend not to be the quiet guy," Flom said.

Flom graduated from Penn State first in 2000 with a B.F.A in Musical Theater and then again in 2005 with an M.F.A in Directing. His thesis production in 2005 was "Bat Boy the Musical." A musical about the fictional creature Bat Boy featured often in the Weekly World News tabloid, Flom said. He had seen the show a few times in New York and picked it for its strangeness. "I don't like to do run of the mill shows," Flom said.

This semester Flom plans to run three one act plays written by John Guare. The plays are whacky and fun and should be fun for the audience and the performers, Flom said.

As to his teaching style, "I'm a lot quicker to get up and make a fool out of myself in class to make a point on something theatrical," Flom said. He feels that students are more responsive when the class is dialogue based as opposed to a lecture. Theater is not a science and there is room for discussion, which is what he loves about it, Flom said.

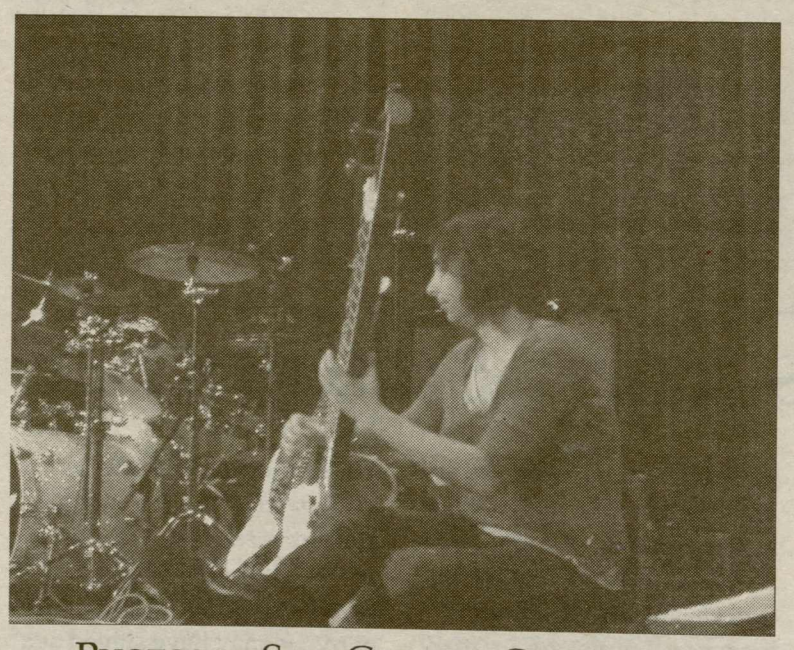
One lesson he would like to impart on students above all other lessons is that, "Theater is legitimate. There's a great deal of hard work in it." Flom said. Theater is as important as any other major and not something to brush off, Flom said.

Flom is new to the area having gotten here a week before classes started. "I'm really looking forward to the autumn," Flom said. Flom's girlfriend who is also in the theater profession, working with lighting and set materials, seems to like the area as well, Flom said.

Tabitha Fitzgerald, Critic Staff

Lyndon State College Professor Jonathon Flom

RAINING JANE ROCKS LYNDON STATE



PHOTOS BY SAM GADDES, CRITIC STAFF

Northeast Kingdom activities

By ROBERT RUMRILL
CRITIC STAFF

Many college students that first come to LSC are almost always complaining about the lack of things to do in the area. While I try not to take offense to these claims of boredom, being a Vermonter I can't help but feel that some of these people are not giving this state the proper respect that it deserves. There are many different aspects of Vermont that one can enjoy and all it takes is a little knowledge.

If you are an outdoor enthusiast, hopefully you are, considering where you chose to go to college; there is a plethora of different opportunities that are minutes away from the campus. From hiking to snowboarding, the opportunities for outdoor adventures are endless.

Mountain bikers should take note of the Kingdom Trails in East Burke. With over 100 miles of biking terrain, the Kingdom Trails are some of the top trails in the country, along with the Moab trails in Utah (KingdomTrails.org).

If you have not been there yet, I suggest you take a ride up Route 5 to Lake Willoughby. Sandwiched between two mountains, both of which have trails leading to summits with spectacular views, the mysterious lake is the deepest in the state. With plenty of places to swim and hike, Lake Willoughby is a must see in the Northeast Kingdom.

As the days continue to get shorter and the snow begins to fall, countless other prospects arise. Burke Mountain (SkiBurke.com), within 10 minutes of LSC, provides a quick and easy escape from the schoolwork that we will all come to dread. For those who are looking to get away from global warming, Jay Peak is within an hour of LSC and borders Canada. With an annual snowfall blowing away all other east coast mountains, Jay Peak stands in a category all by itself (JayPeakResort.com).

If the nightlife is your forte and the Packing House does not seem appealing to you, consider Burlington which is under two hours due west. With an impressive music scene and night clubs galore, Burlington makes for a nice weekend endeavor to escape the hectic schoolwork scene. Also Montréal and Boston, all of which are within three hours from the school, are a few other locations not too far from LSC.

On top of all of the above activities, do not forget about all of the school-funded events that occur on campus. If you are still complaining about how much you cannot stand the area then I am assuming that you are the type of person that will probably whine about all the places you have been and will go in your life. I suggest you stop thinking that the grass is greener on the other side and start enjoying life while you have it.

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES IS SEEKING NEW MEMBERS: MEETS TUESDAYS AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE STUDENT CENTER. GET INVOLVED!

Meteorology professor says epic winter coming to area

By DILLON ELIASSEN
CRITIC STAFF

Assistant Professor of Meteorology Jason Shafer has good news for skiers; the Northeast Kingdom will receive more snowfall this winter than last year.

Shafer specializes in short and medium range forecasting, which consists of predicting the weather from three days to up to two weeks, but says that the consensus among meteorologists is that we'll have more snow than the last two years.

Last year St. Johnsbury recorded 65 inches of snow, which is significantly lower than average. "Statistically we're due for more snow," Shafer said.

El Nino weather conditions have caused water temperatures to rise in the Pacific Ocean this year, and are expected to affect the climate of the Northeast Kingdom.

Shafer, 29, is the newest addition to the faculty of Lyndon State College's meteorology department. Shafer is an assistant professor of meteorology, and this is his second year teaching at LSC.

Shafer hails from Wanaque, N.J., graduated from Plymouth State University, and attended graduate school at the University of Utah. Shafer has been interested in the weather ever since he was six years old.

"I'd watch the weather channel incessantly, especially in winter," Shafer recalls. "On snow days I'd get up to shovel snow."

He describes himself and his father as outdoorsmen and said, "I've always felt a close connection to the Earth and the weather affecting it."

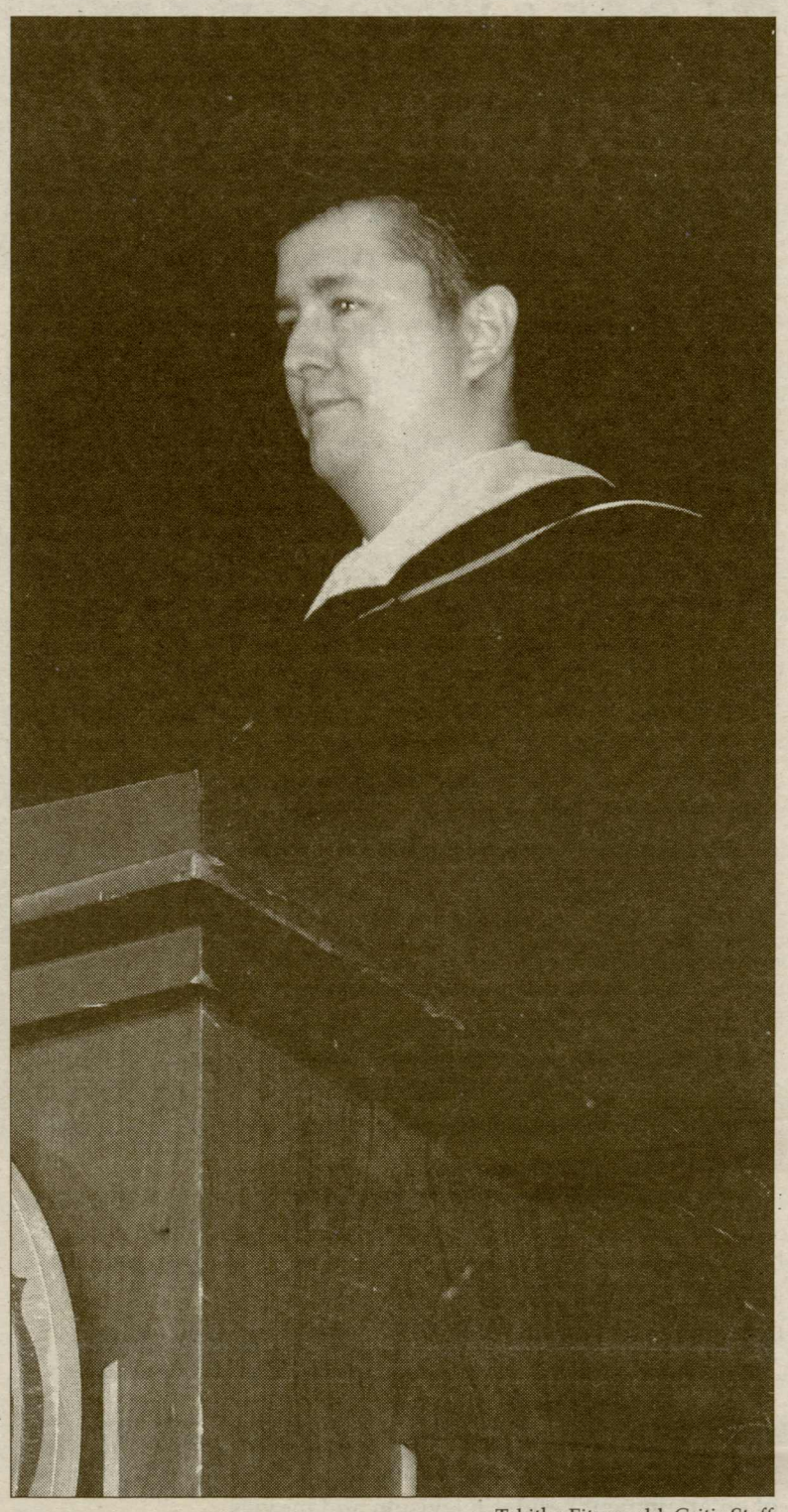
As a kid Shafer enjoyed reading about the various sciences. "I was a kid that always asked a lot of questions," Shafer said. "It used to drive my dad crazy."

Despite his love of the subject, he didn't think about a career in meteorology until he got to college. "I was drawn to the idea of teaching and sharing knowledge," he said. "I thought I'd have a knack for explaining difficult things to people."

Shafer enjoys forecasting as much as teaching. "It's challenging, and always changing," he said. "That's part of the fun."

Shafer enjoys living in an area that has snow, and said even if he was offered a job in the South where the pay was doubled, he wouldn't go.

Outdoor sports appeal to Shafer. He runs, hikes, kayaks, and cross country skis. He also makes homemade herbal teas, and is the co-advisor of LSC's Ultimate Frisbee club.



Tabitha Fitzgerald, Critic Staff

Leo Sevigny, Associate Dean for Student Affairs welcomes the class of 2010 at convocation.

New public security director at LSC

By KEITH WHITCOMB JR. with reporting from CALEB BYERLY
CRITIC STAFF

Lyndon State College welcomed new Director of Public Safety, George Hacking to its campus Monday. Hacking previously worked as a Vermont state Trooper. His first day as a trooper was January 7, 1980. "I remember the day fondly because we had to dig through two feet of snow for pushups and sit-ups at Pittford Academy," Hacking said.

Hacking believes that his time as a Vermont State Trooper will be beneficial to his current position at LSC. "My previous experience has given me the opportunity to work with people from various backgrounds, which is the same as Lyndon State College. Lyndon is basically an extension of the environment around it and is a small city in of itself," Hacking said.

"My duties are to provide a safe environment pertaining to the buildings, staff, and students of Lyndon State College," Hacking said. Hacking's current concern is with the state of the campus parking lot and the use of vehicles. "A priority I'm noticing right off is the 'hunt for a parking spot'. The students who are parking in fire lanes, practicing discourteous driving habits. " Hacking said. "Also, to educate new students of potential hazards, such as driving to and from the bar, or visiting new people they are not familiar with. "

Hacking has been married for twenty-five years come July. He has two sons, Tyler and Miles. Miles Hacking is a student at LSC. Hacking is a man of many hobbies but has found that they have changed over the years. "Well, before I had kids, I was into golf, tennis, fishing, and hunting. But after I had kids, I found that my interests weren't my own anymore. They became my family's. So it became things like soccer, hockey, baseball, little league, and summer vacations," Hacking said.

Sam Gaddus, Critic Staff

Rick Kinsman flings a pass to a teammate during a game of Ultimate Frisbee in Burke.

LSC card system updated

By CALEB BYERLY
CRITIC STAFF

Lyndon State College has updated its ID card security system for the 2006-2007 academic year. The new security software will allow the ID card system to run more efficiently than before.

According to the Interim Director of Public Safety, Brian Michaud, the old ID system would be "largely ineffective during a lightning storm." A communications wire ran from the security office to the Stonehenge dorms. During lightning storms, this wire and other parts were often damaged badly enough to need replacement.

The new, updated software is now controlled from multiple computers in the college, which allow numerous users to change the access levels granted to the individual. "This would shift the burden from one person to a handful", said Michaud. This system can grant an individual access to all buildings. "Aramark gets access to all buildings for deliveries" said Michaud.

The system also works in reverse, by restricting an individual access to particular buildings. "An alarm program sounds when a trouble student tries to use the card", said Michaud.

The system is not limited to ID cards either. The software can keep track of the parking tickets on the campus. "After three tickets, the individual is put on a tow list. If that person tries to park here again, they are towed on sight."

Fun Page

Celebrate Fall with our Fun Page

Acorns
Apples
Cider
Colors
Corn Husks
Cold
Haying
Foliage
Football
Leaves
Pies
Pumpkins
Raking
Scarecrow
Trees

Horoscopes

Virgo (Aug 23-Sept 22) You are having a difficult time adjusting to a new environment. Take some time away from your everyday busy life to realize the things that really matter to you.
Libra (Sept 23-Oct 22) Try something new. You never know what might interest you. If you've never been much of an athlete, get together with some friends and play some rugby or water polo.
Scorpio (Oct 23-Nov 21) You will be faced with some dissappointments this month, but don't let it deter you from your goals. These dissappointments will make you a stronger person in the end.
Sagitarius (Nov 22-Dec 21) You will discover your true feelings for someone this month. Let them know how you feel, invite them out to a movie or to dinner, but most importantly, let them know you care.
Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 19) Help another in need. If you see someone struggling in academics or personal life, offer them your ear and some compassion. We all need someone in our lives to talk to about personal issues.
Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 18) Allow yourself some personal space. Take some time away from your friends and really focus on your well-being.
Pisces (Feb 19-Mar 20) Don't be afraid to show your creative side. Creativity is a key to happiness, so experience others forms of entertainment besides television and movies.
Aries (Mar 21-Apr 19) Keep in open mind even in situations that might not be what your use to.
Taurus (Apr 20-May 20) Sometimes you are your own worst critic. Realize that you are doing good things and people will take notice of your efforts.
Gemini (May 21-Jun 21) So you've splurged a little too much this week, so it's important to buckle down and start saving up again. You will feel good about yourself once you have some extra money in your pockets to go towards an exciting vacation or shopping trip.
Cancer (Jun 22-Jul 22) Be honest with those around you. Be true to yourself and everything else will work out.
Leo (Jul 23-Aug 22) Spend more time outdoors. The nice weather will lift your spirits.

The Critc is looking for people to fill the following positions:
Reporters
Photographers
Advertisers
Layout Designers
Graphic Designers

The Critic Meets Thursdays from 6:00 p.m.-8:40 p.m. in Lac 409. Please contact Mary Wheeler for more information.

Fall Word Search

K L D H S O L D L E A V E S L G M G L
C O L O R S K L M N B V Y J F V F D L
N K M H S E E R T G H D S A W E S A U
C K M L F J I S E L P P A M N M B F H
F O O T B A L L G A M E S L K M N B D
R A K I N G K L J L J K H K G H M N K
K S U H N R O C M H I U Y J G L J L J
P U M P K I N S P I E S K N G F D Y U
K S J A K A N S L A J H A Y I N G N L
C K H K R A K I N G L M D L O C J K M
I M N A J A L S J A K I H J A J T Y R
D K M A H S J A K S A C O R N S A S L
E K A S J D S A Q K D S A A L I W J W
R A S L A D W D S A A P P L E S A P I
S C R A R E C R O W A D S A S L K S W

Sudoku Puzzle
Answers in Next Issue

3								8
		7			2			
	4		1					
		2			7	4	1	9
8								7
					4	1		
5	3		7					
	1					3		

New Web site protects personal information

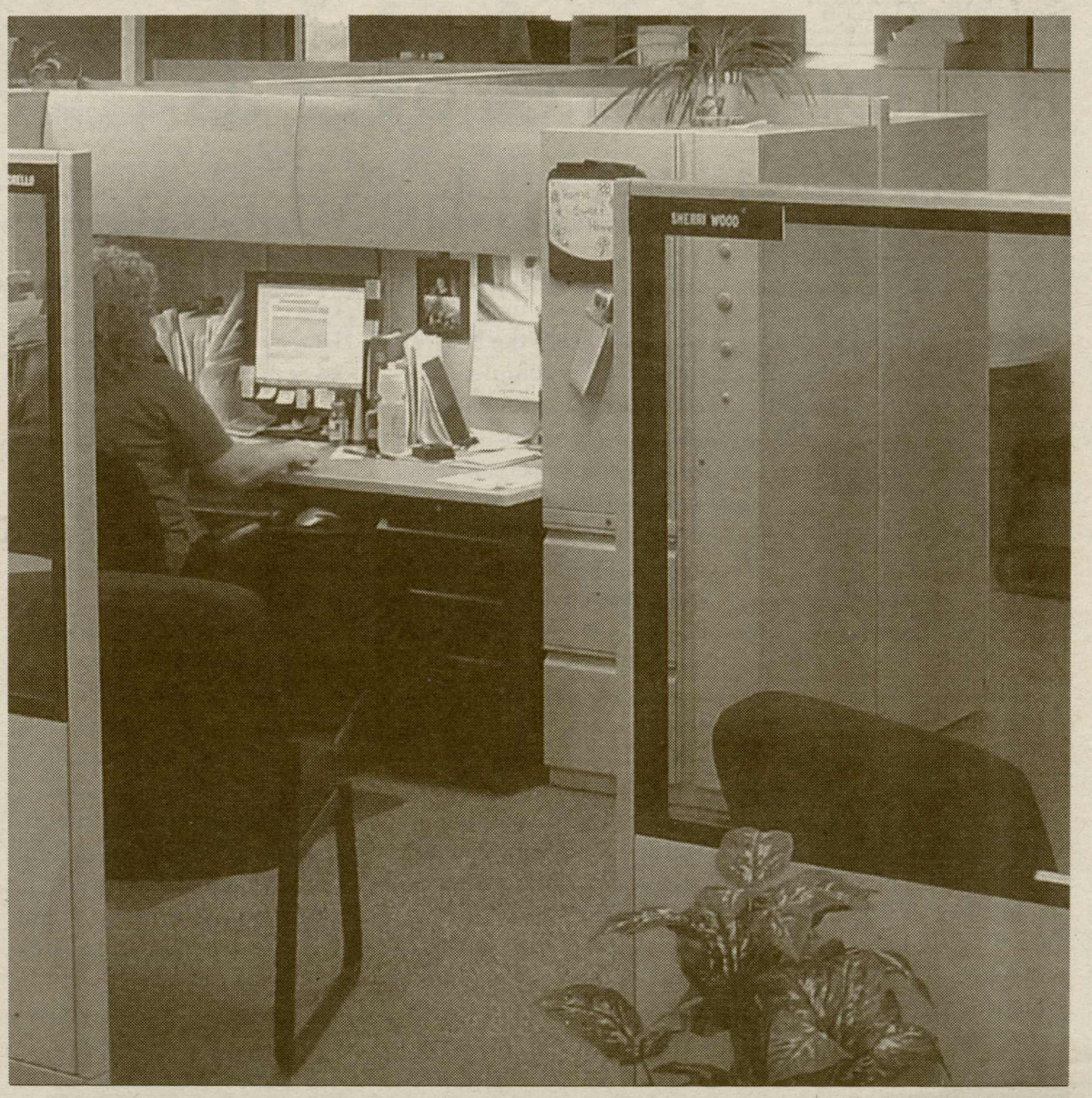
NEW YORK—September 18, 2006—RepVine.com launched today to help those living in today's online community collect and display online references. The site, located at www.repvine.com, enables its users to aggregate meaningful information about themselves and to view the same information about others, without some, i.e. recruiters, making incorrect inferences.

In the world we live in, the average person can find out just about anything by doing a simple Internet search. Ultimately, the web is about information, and now more than ever, the web acts as a destination where people turn to look for information—not just about companies but about people.

"The web is a great equalizer, allowing people and companies of all sizes to coexist on equal footing," said Hagai Yardeny, RepVine's creator. "Sites like Google make it incredibly easy to find information of all types, but it's a double edged sword. Once information is out on the web, it almost never goes away."

"What you post on a MySpace profile, what you upload onto video sites, and the comments you make on others profiles, all of that information will be unearthed and used when people want to evaluate you," Yardeny continued. "The engines and community sites do not have to work against you. They can work for you, and that is what RepVine offers."

RepVine was established in 2006 as a platform that allows users to manage an online portfolio of references. RepVine.com is a free site and, while anyone can view the basic information, only registered members can contribute to online reputation portfolios.



Tabitha Fitzgerald, Critic Staff

LSC's new offices offer more space and comfort for the school's employees and students.

Tabitha Fitzgerald, CRITIC STAFF

The Farmer's Market made a stop at LSC on Thursday, Sept. 21. The Farmer's Market offers a variety of different fruits and vegetables at prices that are friendly for LSC students.

Don't forget to attend
"Thirsty Thursday"
with Residential Life in the Stonehenge courtyard on Thursday, Sept. 28 from 6p.m. - 9p.m.
Take part in a keg toss, root beer pong, and learn about the affects of alcohol.

Bozeman presents paper at Dartmouth College

Lyndon State College Professor James Bozeman of Waterford presented a paper at the Dartmouth Mathematics Colloquium in June. The presentation was titled "More Genus One Whitehead Manifolds and Counterexamples to a Conjecture of Brown." The article was also printed in the Proceedings of the Korean Jangjeon Mathematical Society.

Illustrations for the article were created by LSC student Carl Stagg.

Bozeman has been an invited speaker at the Jangjeon society's conference in the past and was named an editor of the society's journals in 2005. As such, he is one of a small group of editors who are responsible for helping the journals select for publication work that is submitted by mathematicians from around the world. The Proceedings journal publishes work associated with conferences twice each year, and the Advanced Studies in Contemporary Mathematics is a quarterly publication. All work included in the journals is judged on its accuracy and the value of its contribution to the field of mathematics.

LSC fitness center gets new weight machine

By JOSEPH RIEKMAN
CRITIC STAFF

LSC fitness center has a new "multi-press rack" weight machine. The rack has many features designed to create a safe lifting platform for the person exercising. Built-in adjustable pins hold the weight bar as the lifter performs their various exercises. Safety bars prevent the person from being crushed if exhausted while bench pressing. Rubberized weights help to protect floors from damage.

Students who knew of the machine were happy the college made the decision to purchase one. Randy Rathburn, intramural director, said that the machine is a "huge improvement over what we had before" and hoped there would be more equipment improvements in the future.

Exercise Science Major, Leon Feerick, said he was happy the college bought the equipment too. Explaining how the old machine is restricted to simple vertical movement, while the new press is not because the lift bar is free from the machine.

Rathburn takes over as new basketball head coach

By JESSICA MILLHISER
Critic Staff

Randy Rathburn has been hired as head coach of LSC's men's basketball team and is very excited for the upcoming season.

Rathburns' outlook on the upcoming season is a very positive one. "It should be a very successful year," Rathburn said, "even though we only have two returning Seniors, I would consider us a veteran team because we also have a lot of Juniors and Sophomores coming back as well. We have a solid core of players." Rathburn does, however, see some potential challenges in their future. Since LSC is in transition, getting together a game schedule was more difficult, and as a result they are playing more away games than normal; out of their 23 games, 16 will be away and only seven of them will be at home.

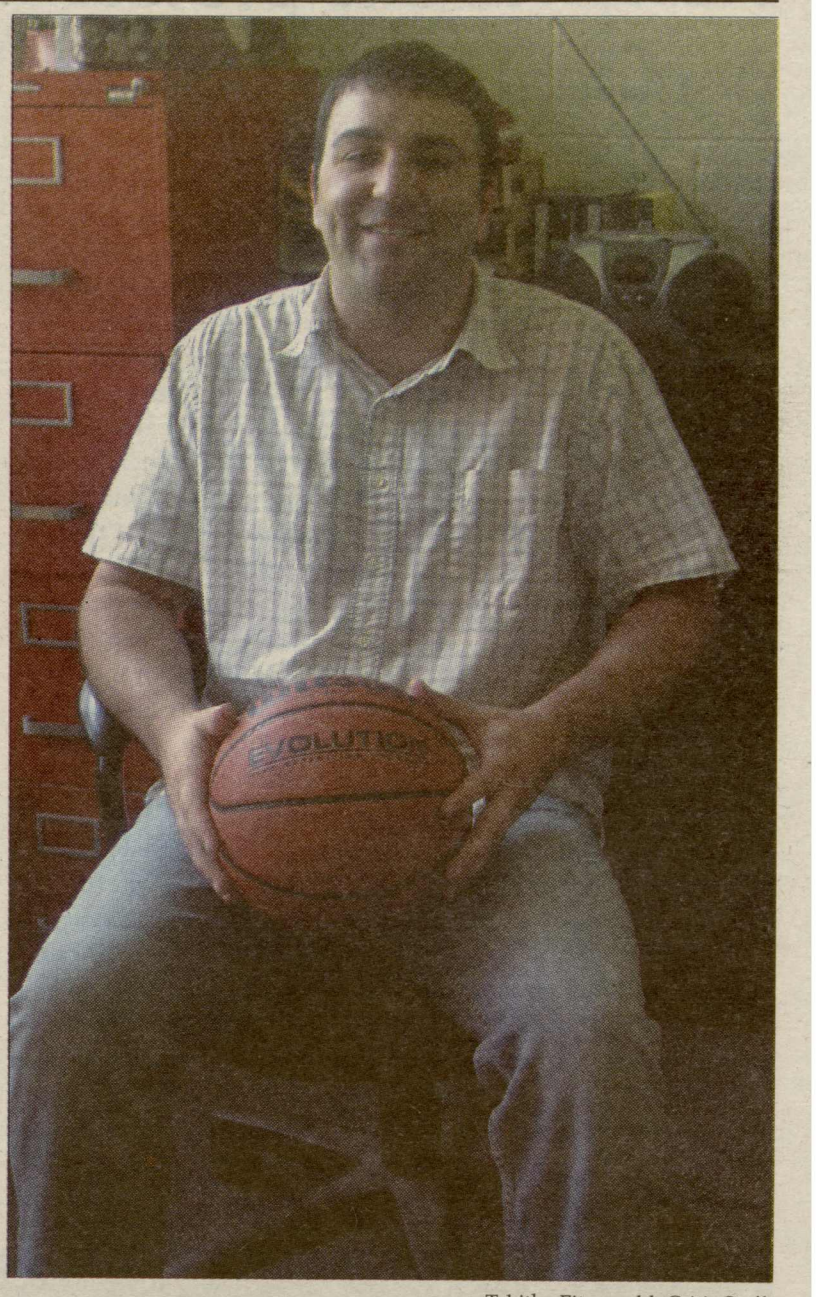
LSC athletics is currently affiliated with the USCAA (United States Collegiate Athletic Association) for the next four years until the transition from the NAIA to the NCAA is complete. Rathburn is excited about this new transition because it widens the variety of teams and the level of experience for his players. Some of the added competition throughout the season will be Skidmore, SUNY Morrisville, MCLA, among others.

When first hearing about the transition of affiliations, Rathburn expressed some disappointment because he wasn't how his players would react. Upon further research, Rathburn found out that there was "a great possibility of post-season play", which encouraged his players. In previous years, only conference games mattered, but this year all games count.

Chris Dorsey, a former member of the basketball team, has now assumed the position of assistant coach to Rathburn. "Dorsey will play a vital role in the teams' success," Rathburn said. Dorsey has a lot of knowledge of the game and has a good connection with the players because he was starting point guard last season. Dorsey has already started a conditioning program for the team which runs three days a week.

When asked about former head coach Eric Berry, Rathburn replied that Berry is on a leave of absence for the year with the option of returning if he chooses to. Rathburn expects to keep in touch with Berry throughout the season and said Berry still wants to be a part of the recruitment process for High School ball players.

There were 30 students at the pre-season meeting and 20-30 of them got to play during open-gym time. Tryout for the team begins October 15th and runs until Oct. 17th. Cuts will be made on the 17th and official practice begins Oct. 18th.



Tabitha Fitzgerald, Critic Staff

Randy Rathburn, new men's basketball coach, expects a very successful year.

Sam Gaddes, Critic Staff

Serena Franks practices a serve in preparation for the girls first season.

Volleyball becomes varsity sport

By JESSICA MILLHISER
CRITIC STAFF

This season marks the sendoff of what hopes to be a fun and exciting new team; LSC Women's Volleyball.

Though the team's record as of now is 0-5, the team's coach and members remain optimistic.

"The team is looking really good considering [they] are a first year team and most of [them] have never actually played before," Joslyn Sykes, volleyball team member, said.

"They're pretty good for a bunch of ladies only playing in High School." Head Coach Sean Fisher said, agreeing with Sykes.

LSC seems to be very supportive of this new addition to their athletic curriculum.

Sykes said they have "bought all the equipment, funded our uniforms, and are currently in the process of drilling holes in the Stannard Gym so we can have more space to play and have more seating for an audience."

The holes are to be added in the gym so that a volleyball net is able to be placed in the floor during practice and game times. "The administration is excited to see what we're going to do," Fisher said.

As a team, Sykes mentioned that the girls seem to be getting along very well with each other. They enjoy their time together at practice and do as much as they can together outside of practice or game time.

Fisher also seems to be enjoying his position and the girls he is coaching. Everyone has a positive attitude.

"It feels like we've been a team for a while, not just two weeks," Fisher said.

Sykes commented on her new coach by saying, "Coach knows that we're not only a first year team, but that this is also his first time coaching at this level; so everyone is on the same page which makes it a great learning experience."

Fisher's prior volleyball experience has mainly been recreational, although he has played in many other tournaments and leagues.

He is an LSC graduate and wanted to return here once he found out they were starting a women's volleyball team. Fisher commented that he returned "for love of the game."

Many of the teams they have played so far have been playing a while, so they are much more experienced.

"We are still learning some of the things that they already do on instinct," Sykes said.

Comparatively, the LSC team has a lot more to learn but they definitely have the capability of giving teams a run for their money.

The anticipation for the rest of the season is that it will only get better.

"We can only improve from here," Sykes said.

Fisher said that some of their harder games were out of the way so hopefully they can try to clinch some wins.

The team has a lot of potential to make the rest of the season fairly successful.

"We'll keep working on weak spots and become a stronger team as the season goes on," Sykes said.

The Critic

Serving the student voice of the Northeast Kingdom

Lyndonville, Vermont | Friday, October 9, 2006 | Volume 53, Number 2

Lyndon State officials may install security cameras

By CALEB BYERLY
Critic Staff

Lyndon State College Public Safety Director George Hacking is exploring the possibility of surveillance cameras on the LSC campus.

"Coming from the world of law enforcement and seeing [its] benefits, and with recent world events, surveillance cameras would be a great advantage for saving lives," Hacking said.

The idea of installing surveillance cameras on the LSC campus has been met with mixed reactions from the students and faculty.

Student Government Association President Lars Christensen stated in an email that "the problem lies in how a surveillance camera system would be used."

"The general consensus is that if there were cameras in the academic buildings or around them (HAC, LAC, Vail, ACT), as well as in all parking lots, this is an ok move because it is public space and the college has a desire to protect these areas," Christensen said.

"[An] overwhelming number of students however, seemed to think that if the plan would be to implement cameras in and around the residence halls (i.e. out in the courtyard, common areas or in suites) this represented an invasion of privacy and therefore is wrong."

Dr. James Bozeman, Professor of Mathematics stated that "[if] there are clear reasons and they aren't intrusive to private space…I can say there are legitimate reasons for them. But I would need more information before I would approve or disapprove."

According to the National School Safety Center Report, homicides in U.S. Schools have increased by more than 600 percent since 2002. St. Johnsbury Academy approved of allowing the use of surveillance cameras on school property, including school buses, in April of 2005.

Students brave needle prick for Blood Drive

BY DANIELLE SYKES
Critic Staff

Of the total number of people who attempt to donate at blood drives, 12 to 15 percent are declined, according to an American Red Cross representative.

David Carmichael, who's been with the Red Cross for 18 years said, "college students are typically deferred because of low iron or travel."

Lyndon State College's Blood Drive in Sept. 2005 deferred 16 percent of potential donors, but still saw 131 overall participants. The most recent Blood Drive on Sept. 21, 2006 reached its quota of 120 pints (135-140 donors) in the first of three drives held annually on campus.

The Red Cross has announced that the country's blood supply is critically low. The organization has to have strict policies when accepting people's blood, both for the benefit of the donor and recipient.

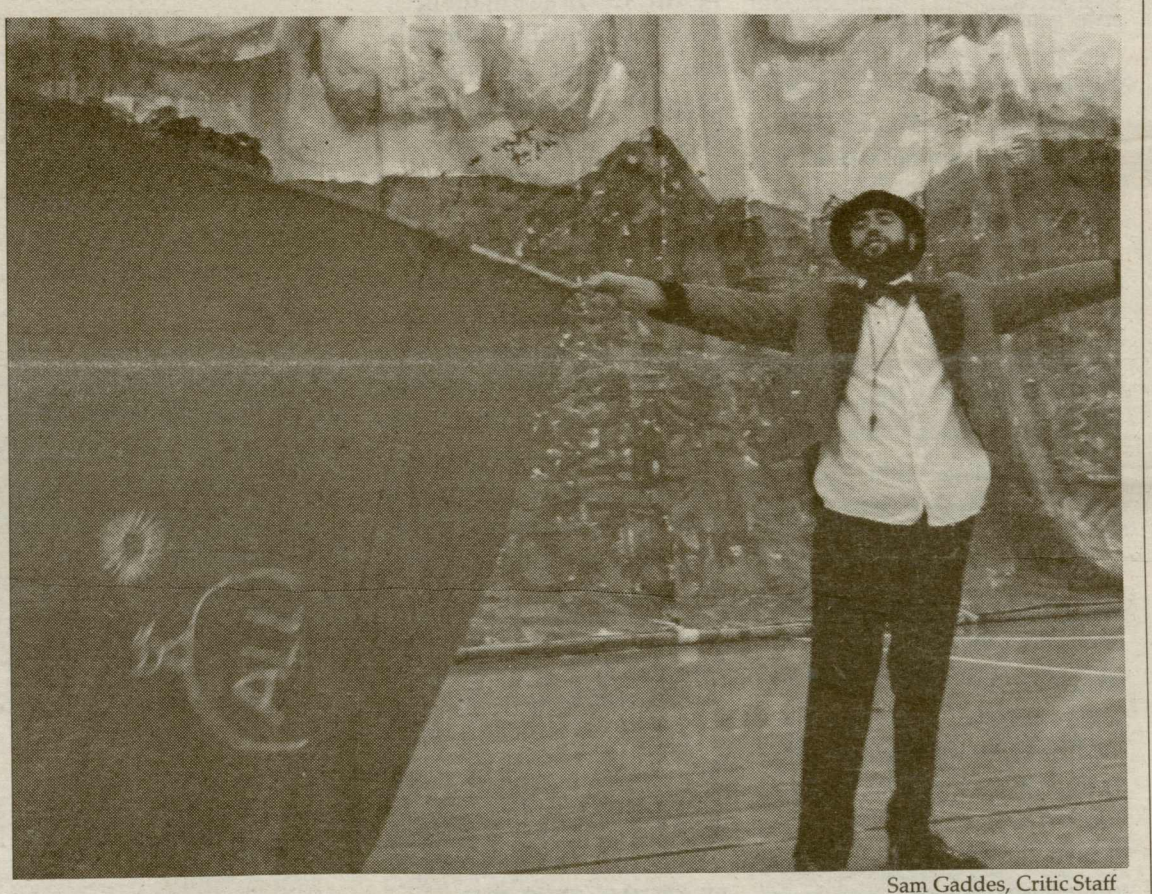
Students who study abroad may find it particularly difficult to give because of the possibility of being a carrier of a disease. Some overseas countries often don't have as much control over viruses as the United States does. Students who are turned away aren't necessarily ill or going to become ill - the Red Cross simply must take these precautionary measures.

All donors must sign a waiver prior to giving blood. It clearly states that all blood is tested for HIV. If the blood is found to carry the virus, the blood will not used and the individual will immediately be contacted.

The country's overall donation level is down. Since 1999, the number of donors has risen by about 30 percent.

The Burlington Red Cross office, which covers blood drives in Vermont and northern New Hampshire, is planning 700 drives next year.

Campus Snapshot



Sam Gaddes, Critic Staff

Bread and Puppet performer addresses the audience during Wednesday nights performance. For the story and more photos see page five.

State politicians reaching out to gain college-aged voters

By ELIZABETH STRAUSS
Critic Staff

According to a recent document emailed by Lyndon State College's Dean of Academic and Student Affairs Donna Dalton, the voter registration rate for all U.S. citizens between the ages of 18 and 24 is 57.6 percent.

In an effort to get some attention from younger voters, politicians Rich Tarrant and Scudder Parker are listed on the networking websites myspace.com and facebook.com.

Republican Senate candidate Rich Tarrant held a gathering at Ake's Place on Church Street in Burlington, calling it "College Game Day," in an attempt to attract younger voters.

> *"With gas prices going down, people will forget, they won't be hit in the pocketbook."*
>
> **-Republican Senate candidate Rich Tarrant**

The half dozen volunteers and campaign staffers hosting the event were all young, several of them UVM students.

Danielle Storm, an economics major at UVM, started out as a volunteer with the Tarrant campaign, and was then hired as absentee ballot coordinator for the campaign.

Tim Lennon, campaign manager for Tarrant says that events like the one at Ake's will hopefully get younger people interested.

The campaign has been in contact with The Student Government Association at UVM, and Tarrant has spoken to several high school groups around the state in an effort to bring out new voters.

Tarrant said that as a political newcomer he needs to "try new things to bring out people" and see what works.

Gubernatorial candidate Scudder Parker is going to try something completely different, "SCUDDEROO".

Modeled loosely after the popular three-day-long Bonnaroo music festival in Manchester, Tenn, Parker is holding a three- performer event at Higher Ground in South Burlington on Thursday, Oct. 5.

Erin Russell-Story, Parker's communications director said it will be like Bonnaroo, "but without the mud".

"It is specifically geared toward the 18-25 year old vote," Russell-Story said. "It's not just a music event, but [it is] modeled partly after rock the vote, getting students registered [to] help them take some action."

Both the Parker and Tarrant campaigns agree that younger voters are interested primarily in environmental issues such as energy and global climate change.

"To be completely frank, they think a lot of 'old People' have dropped the ball on the environment," Russell-Story said.

Tarrant also wants to keep environmental issues on the minds of voters, saying "with gas prices going down, people will forget, they won't be hit in the pocketbook."

Upcoming Events:

October 9:
Chancellor to the Vermont State Colleges Robert Clark will be visiting LSC.

October 11:
From 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the Alexander Twlight Theater, President Carol Moore invites the LSC community to a legislative forum. The forum will allow people to discuss their views on the future of Vermont and the role of higher education.

October 12:
The new student services center will be holding an open house in Vail 348 from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. Students are encouraged to see how financial aid, the business office, and the registrar's office have intergrated into one.

October 12:
Military veterans are invited to meet for conversations and refreshments at 12:30 p.m. in Vail 421.

October 17:
The real world is knocking. Linda Wacholder, Director of Career Services, will be holding an information session on life after college in the Rita Bole community room at 7:00 p.m.

October 27 and November 3:
There will be two workshops offered at these dates to prepare students for the writing assessment portion of the graduation requirements. The content will include tips for taking a timed essay, overcoming test anxiety, and how to organize a writing prompt.

November 6-10:
Test administration procedures for the fall:
Writing exam: Friday November 10 from 3:00-4:30 p.m. in LAC 408.
Information Literacy: The week of November 6-10. Monday and Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. and Wednesday and Thursday at 8:00 p.m. in LAC 204.
Quantitative Reasoning: The week of November 6-10 at the same dates and times as above.

November 11:
A reminder to all students that another national election will be held and voter registration deadlines are fastly approaching. Tracy Sherbrook and Linda Wacholder are both notaries and can assist students with voter registration.

LSC English prof receives 'warm' response on recently published book

By MARY WHEELER
Critic Editor

Students, faculty and staff gathered in the Burke Mountain room in late September to hear English Professor, Alan Boye, read from his latest book "Tales from the Journey of the Dead" which was recently published by the University of Nebraska Press.

"Tales from the Journey of the Dead," describes the history of a remote desert 100 miles of Albuquerque, New Mexico. Boye said he initially chose this spot because of its isolation and non-descript location. "I was attracted to this particular location because it represents human history in North America. Anything that's happened to human beings in the last 1,000 years in North America has happened to people on this desert."

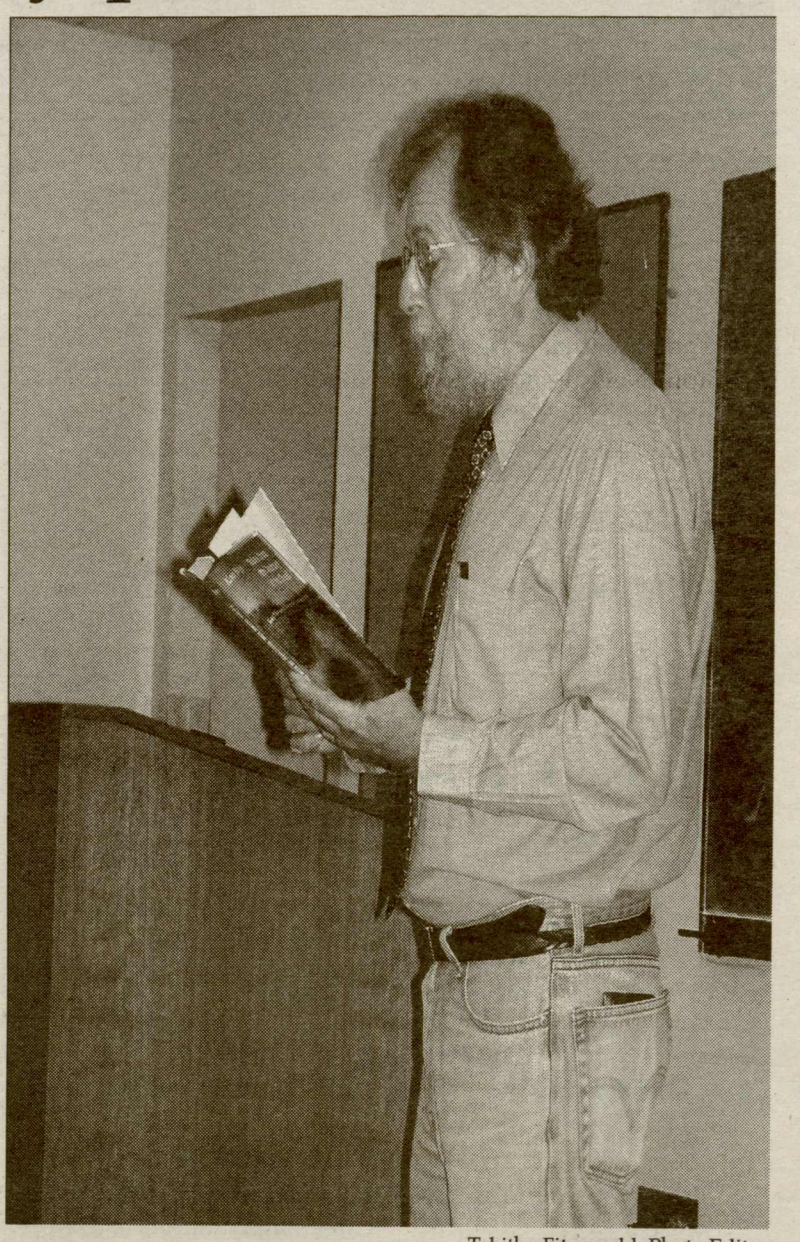
"Tales from the Journey of the Dead" contains interviews of native people and research of the area, which Boye described as being his most complex project. He found most of the native people friendly and willing to speak of their experiences living on the desert.

"This book is really about how people have used their time on earth and where their lives are because of the desert," Boye said. "Their lives are reduced to the simplest terms. Some of those people lived vicious and destructive lives, but others lived profound and simple lives, and there are things to be learned from that."

Boye read excerpts from the book including the opening chapter which included the history of the area. "And out there somewhere too are the tales of the poets and dreamers of ordinary men and women who spent their lives under the wide and ruthless sky of the journey of the dead," Boye read.

After the reading, the floor was opened up to questions. The event was sponsored by the LSC bookstore and copies of the book were available for purchasing after the reading.

Boye has been a professor at LSC for the past twenty years and has published a number of books, among them are: "Guide to the Ghosts of Lincoln," "Complete Roadside Guide to Nebraska," "Holding Stone Hands: On the Trail of the Cheyenne Exodus of 1878," and "Walking the Hills of Vermont". Boye is also a commentator on Vermont Public Radio (VPR).



Tabitha Fitzgerald, Photo Editor

English Professor, Alan Boye, reads from his recent book "Trails from the Journey of the Dead" to the LSC community.

State of College Address: LSC heavily reliant on student tuition

BY: KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
Managing Editor

The financial situation of LSC was brought up at the State of the College Address last Thursday. Bob Whittaker, Dean of Institutional Advancement, said that Vermont colleges always seem to be vying for last place when it comes to how much a state gives in financial aid to colleges. LSC is one of the colleges in Vermont that feels the strain when it comes to lack of sate funding.

Dean of Administration, Wayne Hamilton, also spoke of LSC's fiscal situation. This year, LSC's expenditures slightly exceeded its revenue. Hamilton attributed the slight excess to a 14 acre property, purchased by LSC. As a result, there will be no carry-forward spending this year. Echoing Whittaker's remarks on lack of state funding, Hamilton showed a graph of the amount LSC received in state funds over the past few years. This year, 28.8 percent of LSC's core expenditures were covered by the state. In the year 2002, that number was 33.1 percent. The percentage had been steadily decreasing since. "We have had a very serious erosion in our state funding on a per student basis," Hamilton said.

Even though LSC student's tuition is responsible for over 90 percent of the college's income, not all of the financial news was bad. LSC currently receives $1.8 million in endowments. It's the second highest number of endowment money in LSC's history. There was also a 13 percent increase in alumni gifts and a 25 percent growth in gifts to the LSC Annual Fund.

Whittaker also mentioned the Capital Campaign; a plan LSC has to raise funds by the year 2011, which would also mark LSC's 100th anniversary. The goal behind the Capital Campaign is to take the burden of keeping the school open off students, Whittaker said.

Not all of the speakers at the state of the college address discussed financial matters. The student population was also reported on. Michelle McCaffrey, Assistant Dean for Administrations, reported that this was the second largest incoming freshmen class LSC has seen. 2003 saw the highest with 519 students, while 2006 has 514.

"It does take whole campus to recruit a student," LSC president, Carol Moore, said. One of the college's future goals is to attract more students." Moore thanked all of the LSC community for its help.

Retention rates still concern the LSC administration. Donna Dalton, Dean of Academic and Student Affairs, said that LSC lost an unusual amount of students this past fall. Most of the students who left did so because of academic reasons, although the number of students dismissed due to judicial reasons was higher than past years. The reasons for this are still being analyzed, Dalton said.

LSC's graduation rate is high, Dalton said. Graduating 33 percent of students within six years is LSC's benchmark goal and this past year showed a 39 percent graduation rate. LSC also boasts a high job placement within six months of graduation, Dalton said.

LSC is also in the talking phase of a plan to bring UVM's B.S. in nursing to LSC. The program would me much the like the current program LSC has set up with Castleton State College, Dalton said.

"We can't stand still, we're constantly in motion," Moore said, in regards to LSC's plans for the future.

Letter Policy:
The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must be signed and include the author's phone number and address. The Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:

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Lyndonville, VT 05851

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Message from the Student Government

In Student Government this year the focus is not on government and all that formality, but rather the singular focus is on getting problems solved for you the student.

This can be anything from a campus wide issue, to an issue as small as one only affecting you and just you're close friends, or even just your suite on campus, whatever makes your experience here better.

We are not an organization that is secret and shrouded in mystery although it may seem that way at times. We are just ordinary members of the college with the same aspirations and some of the same problems all of you might be facing in your own lives today.

The focus for all student government I believe is the college experience which ultimately makes the education, as our motto goes. The community here at Lyndon State College is perhaps the singular most important thing to a productive college experience.

We as student government are the avenue that pulls the community close together in time of trouble as well as in times of celebration and good times. This year I want this community as tight as it has ever been. And I think for the most part it is coming together nicely.

Although I think there is a lot still to do in student government, In terms of getting things running at peak efficiency we have already completed a lot. We have completed elections and the first senate meeting is fast approaching.

There has been quite a lot of interest this year and most of the spots have been filled. We have had some VSC wide meetings, and come the first meeting of senate we will all be sitting on committees that all work actively to make positive changes here on campus. To all the chairs of these committee I want to extend thanks for your patience.

House has been interesting this year and although, in my opinion, there have been some snags, along the way, Chris, John, Steve, and I are managing. In senate the agenda is going to address things left undone from last year. We as well are going to plow ahead and forage new ground in the year ahead. We are planning already two things.

We are planning a drive around thanksgiving to help starving children which is through OXFAM.

We are also planning spring day festivities so any ideas you have on that would be cool to hear.

I ask you all to get involved through active participation in all the clubs and organizations here on campus and support them anyway everyday, and work together to make the Lyndon experience something everyone will remember for years to come.

I hope all the new senators, house reps and every one of you students are as excited about this year and all it has to offer as I am.

Fun Times Always,
Lars Christensen,
Student Body President.

LSC adds extracurriculars to the curriculum

By: JOSHUA JAMES GERVAIS
EDITORIAL EDITOR

Extracurricular activities aren't supposed to be part of a class--that's pretty much what extracurricular means. Yet, this year's INT 1020 classes, in addition the normal arrays of studies skills and the like, students have been asked to attend a club meeting.

I'm all for encouraging students to join clubs, but it shouldn't be a requirement for a class. Not all people have the time or interest to join a club, and forcing someone to a go to a club meeting--even once--could make that person think of clubs as an obligation instead of a choice.

Most clubs would openly welcome new potential members, but someone that doesn't want to be there isn't very helpful. Granted, some of the students used this assessment as an opportunity to find out more about a club they were interested in joining, but I believe that most of those students would have done the same on their own so forcing their hand benefits no one.

On the other hand, student without the desire or time to participate in a club are inconvenienced, and the clubs whose meetings they attend are forced to host someone who doesn't want to be there which makes the meeting less enjoyable for the people that want to be there.

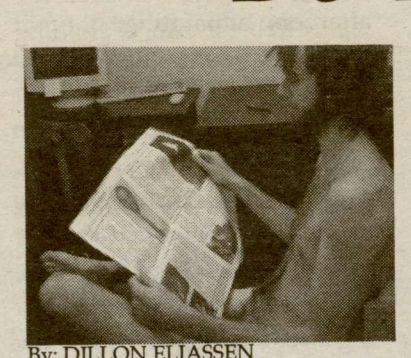
This puts clubs in the same position as people running horizon events. There's a chance to up you're attendance, but at the cost of filling your event with people that don't really want to be there and only pay attention to get enough tidbits to slip into their report on the event. I recall attending an event last year when an entire INT 1020 class stood up and walked out when their class period was over; this was not just rude, but those people missed out on the remainder of a very interesting presentation.

The same idea can be found in the use (or misuse) of student e-mails. Surprisingly enough, every person with an LSC email address is not interested in many of things sent as an "lsc-all." It's a lot easier to send an e-mail to everyone instead of finding out who would actually be interested in what you have to say and sending it to just them.

Personally, I could care less if there's going to be an ice cream social or that we have an intramural something-ball team that I could sign up for; I don't care for the kind of ice cream they serve at the socials or the noise that comes along with them, and I have neither the time nor the motivation for sports. On some days I barely have the energy search through my inbox for the scant few emails that I want to read.

To sum it up: You can't force people to be more active in extracurricular activities. The same complaints have been aired since LSC was a teachers college. No amount of arm twisting is going to make people that don't want to participate to do so, and forcing them to do it against their will is only going to make it worse for people that do want to participate.

"Do You McSpace?"



By: DILLON ELIASSEN
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

So I got a cell phone. I held out as long as I could, but I finally had to give in to the will of a faceless corporation that has ingeniously found a way to tax the hell out of personal communication. The advertising dollars spent on convincing America that we desperately need cell phones to survive could be better spent on clothing and feeding the homeless, or researching cures for diseases, or a big sign we could all see from outer space that says "Boobies."

When the salesman was explaining how the phone worked, he talked more about the camera in the phone than anything else. I got the cheapest phone with the cheapest plan, but I still got a whole other piece of technology, a little camera that takes crappy pictures. I got the most basic phone, but you can get one that's a phone, camera, computer, Ipod, and government tracking device all rolled into one!

I thought it was stupid at first, but it's not so bad; a cell phone with a camera is like a spy gadget. Taking pictures with my phone is the closest thing I'll ever come to being James Bond. Sometimes I go to crowded areas indoors and walk around holding my phone up, like I'm looking for a signal, but I'm really taking pictures of people. I pretend the picture is a dossier on an assassination target, and then I delete the picture and say to myself, "Mission Accomplished."

I wonder if anyone ever thought of combining a phone and a camera before phones became portable, or if anyone wanted to combine a house phone with a camera. Or a phone and a microwave. Or a TV/Refrigerator! No wait! The sofa and the stove; I'd call it a Stofa. You can lounge around on a couch and cook noodles. Your friends will come over and a cushion will ring and they'll say, "Dude, bro, what was that, man?" And you'll answer, "Oh, I've got a pie in the sofa.

The restaurant industry has combined food with the internet, and you don't have to go any further than Lyndonville to find it. I was driving on Route 5 and noticed the McDonald's sign boasting "We now have wireless internet." I hadn't had diarrhea in a while so I pulled into the drive-thru. I'm no computer super-genius but I'm pretty sure wi-fi isn't offered to customers in cars, which isn't really fair. You have to go inside to get offered all the perks of the McDonald's experience? That doesn't seem fair to people who elect to stay in their cars. McDonald's should combine fast food with drive-in movie theaters. Little video screens hanging from the building should play movies and TV Land reruns so I'm entertained while my order is getting screwed up.

Remember when McDonald's had burgers, shakes and fries, and young kids thought Happy Meals were awesome? Now there's kids out there who go to McDonald's and complain when wi-fi is down and they can't MySpace while eating a Big Mac.

The Freighthouse Diner has a sign on the door that says "Free Internet," and in smaller letters "Don't have a laptop? Borrow one of ours." The Freighthouse has a nice atmosphere with the model trains, old farm equipment and old pictures of Lyndonville, but I guess it's nice to have wireless internet at the diner. This way, you can download porn and eat the Freighthouse's Hobo Sandwich, which at $6.95 probably isn't the most affordable meal for a bum.

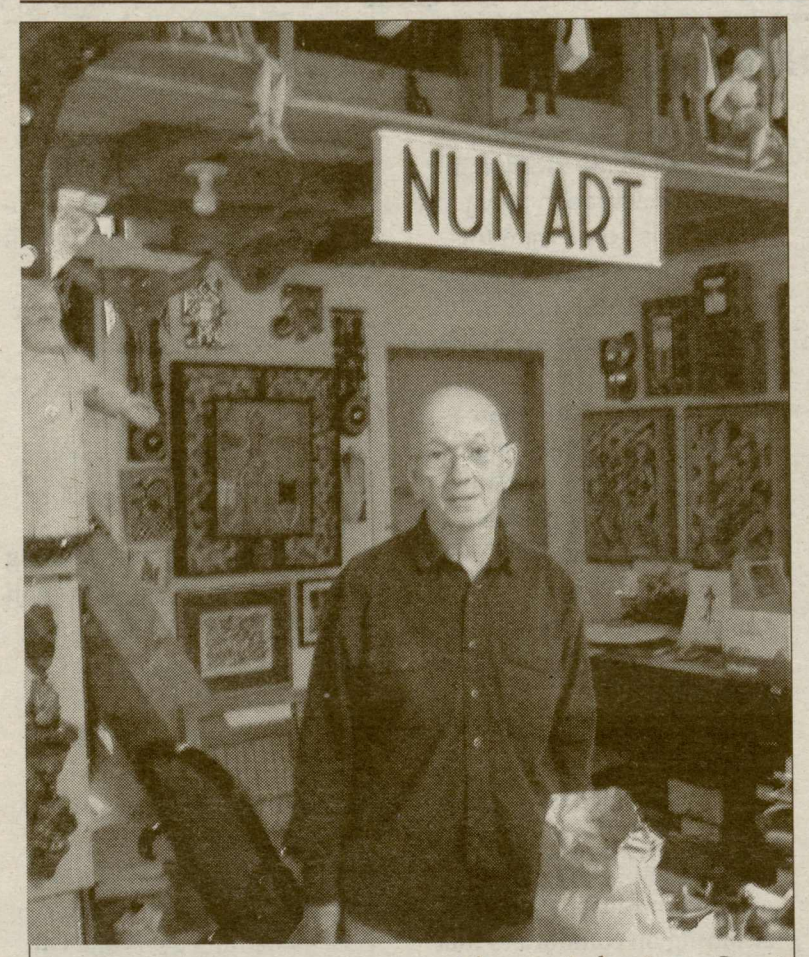


Photo by: Joshua James Gervais

RETIRED PROFESSOR DORIAN MCGOWAN POSES IN FRONT OF SOME RECENT ARTWORK AT HIS HOME IN EAST BURKE VT.

Retired professor looks back on years at LSC

BY JOSHUA JAMES GERVAIS
EDITORIAL EDITOR

The door of HAC 128 still bears the words "Dorian S McGowan, 35 Years, 1995," but Dorian McGowan, former professor of Fine Arts, no longer inhabits that room.

Where there was once an explosion of different expressions of art, there is now a stark, nearly bare, room. "And I should have gotten out a long time ago because I'm 73 and most people bail out at 65, but I was still having fun," McGowan said. "If I miss anything from the college," McGowan said, "It would be the students. It was always fun, always inspiriting, gave me ideas."

McGowan's property is covered with stone walls and other sorts of sculpture. "I set myself a routine," McGowan said, "I get two or three wheelbarrows of stone, bring them down from the upper lot, and build walls, which is a passion. Then gardening and a whole afternoon of painting.

McGowan's most recent paintings are a series of "forgeries" that McGowan paints on pieces of wood set in coffee cans. "It's great because I wake up in the morning and I'm not scheduled to do anything," McGowan said, "I'm not saying anything negative, because I did enjoy myself and that's a hell of a lot of years to enjoy yourself."

"When I got out of Columbia," McGowan said, "Teacher's college of all things, I looked around and I thought 'My god teachers are the dearest people I've ever met in my life. I can't do this.'" McGowan went to work as a painter in Santa's Workshop in North Pole, NY. Then McGowan was offered a teaching position at a high school in Fillmore, NY.

"I figured this is going to be easy, it's out in the country, but I didn't realize that the kids of the Buffalo reformatory were tried out there to see if they could in society."

McGowan work there for three years. "After that experience for three years Lyndon State College was Nirvana," McGowan said, "I think every teacher needs three years in their lives like that, and then if they get a job like at Lyndon State College they're never going to complain."

McGowan came to LSC in 1959, and taught art until his surprising retirement in the spring of 2006. "Luckily, I met up with Dr. Long on his very first day on the job," McGowan said, "I walk in with shorts and sandals and a beard and a thousand other things."

After speaking to McGowan for a half hour Long hired him and found him a place to live. "[Long] was resented by the rest of the college," McGowan said, "When they all came back from their various places and found out that he had hired this strange person."

"I went through some hard times finding a space to teach in," McGowan said. "First off I taught in a strange building right across from Vail that looked like a stage front from an old western movie." The area was poorly suited for an art class with no storage space, poor lighting, and no running water.

"Somebody had been doing carrot printing just before," McGowan said, "and they left the carrots there so when I walked in with the person that was showing me the place there were rats running around eating the carrots."

From there McGowan moved to the cellar of Old Vail, "where it was a dirt floor with water all around the edges, and as I was teaching you could hear the frogs croaking."

"I did that for a while," McGowan said, "Then I was given space in the old pony barn, which was the loft area above the back of Vail." Then Old Vail was torn down, and McGowan was forced to move again.

For a while McGowan's classes were in the building that now houses LSC's day care facilities. "Suddenly a student called me of all people and says, hey get down here your stuff is out on the front lawn." McGowan said, "So I found out that the powers that be decided that they could make more money renting the place to students then having me as an art department in that building."

"And then Bob Michaut," McGowan said, "called me and said get your butt over here quick and sit in the door what was then called the action center," which is now called HAC. McGowan was able to secure the space that he inhabited for the rest of his time at LSC. "So, I got this space by virtue of territorial squatting."

Sleepy Moon Music brings rhythm to Lyndonville

BY JOSHUA DAMASO
CRITIC STAFF

When Lyndon Institute freshman Joe Nelson has free time, he likes to head over to Sleepy Moon Music in Lyndonville so he can "mess around."

"I like coming here and playing," he said. "Sometimes it's cool to play with other people."

Wayne Corey, owner of the Sleepy Moon Music, located in the back of downtown's Lyndonville Antique Center, wants other local musicians to feel the same way.

"I started buying instruments to sell back to young people who can't afford the high-priced things," he said. "This way it promotes music and gets people back into it."

Last April Corey opened Sleepy Moon Music to continue practicing a life-long hobby while also bringing in an extra income away from his full-time regular job. Since then, the nearly half-century long musician has seen steady growth at his downtown location.

"We're not real big, but we're growing," he said. "People have always showed interest in instruments."

Corey said that his main priority is customer service and keeping items in stock that appeal to his specific customers. Instead of having an overbearing and large inventory he orders items based on what his customer demand is. He keeps track of what local musicians like – anything from guitar pick size to instrument preference – on index cards so he knows exactly what he customers need.

"The input from my customers is some of the most important stuff I can get," he said. "Young kids, for example, will work and save money until they can come in and buy [exactly] what they want. It's a matter of customer preference."

Corey said the trick to selling quality instruments at reasonable prices is to buy stock in bulk. When this is done, manufacturers bring their prices lower than they would if items were bought individually, a discounted rate that Corey then factors into his storewide prices – saving both himself and customers money.

"[Sleepy Moon Music] is about giving people what they want at a price they can afford," he said.

Corey also does small repair work on instruments and sells various types of guitar strings, tuners, capos, picks, instructional videos, and other accessories. The shop also features a variety of instruments, with the largest selection being electric, acoustic, and bass guitars.

"We also sell keyboards, violins, clarinets, trumpets, harmonicas, and amps," he said.

Sleepy Moon Music is open daily with Corey in-shop on Saturdays and Sundays and can be reached at (802) 626-5550.

Comedian brings laughs to LSC campus

BY CHRISTINE SLATER
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

Steve Hofstetter "the thinking mans comic" performed at Lyndon State College in the Alexander Twillight Theatre. LSC students filled the theater with laughter as Hofstetter tickled the more inteligent parts of the brain.

Insanity is hereditary" Hofstetter said durring an interview after the show "Ignorance is not, once you are old enough to live on your own you're the only reason you are ignorant. And I really appreciate that this crowd is not."

Hofstetter uses comedy to touch on serious subjects including: race, religion, politics, stereotypes, drugs, censorship, gas prices going down convenietly close to election time and many other topics.

The 27-year-old Queens native is no simple comic. Hofstetter graduated from Columbia University with a degree in American History. He was a published author at age 15, collegehumor.com's original columnist, weekly columnist for Sports Illustrated and the NHL, just to name a few of his accomplishments.

Despite a minor microphone malfunction Hofstetter connected with LSC students after he threw the mic off stage. At the end of his set Hofstetter asked students questions about the school, classes, majors.

Hofstetter encouraged students to meet him after the show. He had a table set up with stickers, autographs, and dvds including his latest "Cure for the cable guy". Appropriately named, Hofstetter discourages comedy like Larry the cable guy who encourages ignorance with his simple-minded brand of comedy.

In a time when so much in society perpetuates and stupidity and sloth, Hofstetter's intellectual take on comedy promotes a "war on ignorance". Not a comic for the simple minded, Hofstetter does not skip a beat when some are left in a cloud of confusion over his moreintellectual material.

Bread and Puppet

Welcome to the First World Insurrection Circus

By TABITHA FITZGERALD
Photo Editor

Among the discarded donkey suits, stray instruments and folded canvas pieces, LSC students waved flags, learned to be turkeys and jumped up and down. This open show of craziness was performed in the Stannard Gym on Wednesday afternoon in preparation for the coming nights show. There to teach the students the ways of being a puppeteer, show them their parts and provide the props was the Bread and Puppet Theater.

The performance that was held on Wednesday night was called "First World Insurrection Circus." According to Danny McNamara this is a generic name that most of Bread and Puppet's shows are called. It is a name that proprietor and fellow puppeteer Peter Schumann came up with to cover the ever changing show. Wednesday afternoon was busy with the customary workshop that comes before the show.

Most of the Bread and Puppet's shows are created for the 40-50 people that join the theater for the summer months, said McNamara. But Fellow puppeteer Rose Friedman said that there are only about five puppeteers traveling with the company for the touring season. It is customary for there to be a small number of people during touring season, said Friedman. So the workshops before the shows are normally held to get the audience involved. They teach "volunteer performers" the parts that need to be filled in the show and give them a chance to see how an operating theater performs, said Friedman.

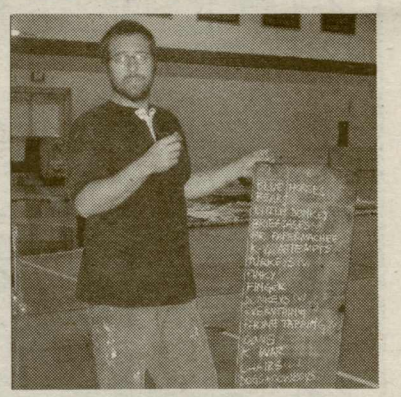
McNamara described the event as an exchange; he said that the participants learn about theater, and the Bread and Puppets unique style, while the company gains the people it needs to put on a large show. Friedman said she thought that people got more out of the show when they participated because they got to hear the message in the show and they got to see the inner workings, and the cooperation it takes to put on a theater performance. "They get to see it takes something greater than yourself," said Friedman.

Angel Jackson, a former LSC student, was also part of the workshop Wednesday afternoon. Jackson was part of the club, Students for Global Change, during the spring of 2006. Together with the rest of the club and Daisy McCoy, Jackson helped bring the Bread and Puppet Theater to the LSC campus. Jackson said that Students for Global Change had worked with the company before during political rallies. She said that she knew they drew a crowd and made their shows fun. "We do not at all claim to be an educational institute. First and foremost we are a functional theater," said Friedman. Still Jackson said she wanted to bring Bread and Puppet to LSC because they had good and important things to say.

The Bread and Puppet Theater is a public theater. It is not sponsored by any government or cooperate grants. "People think that the way to freedom is applying for money and when the money comes you have your freedom. But the freedom is in not having cooperate intervention," said Friedman. The shows are funded by donation. At performances they "pass the hat," a paper-mache top hat that is as much a part of the show as the puppets. They also raise a lot of their money by selling what they have coined as "cheep art," said Friedman.

Friedman said she joined the company after seeing them in college. She was studying theater but felt she was being pushed to go in one direction when she wanted to do it all. The Bread and Puppet Theater allowed her to do it all. McNamara said he also saw the theater for the first time in college. He was a volunteer in one of the shows. He said the show changed his life. He was used to seeing music as a commodity, something to be sold, but the Bread and Puppet Theater made music a part of their art form and he liked that.

McNamara said when he joined the company and moved to Vermont from Cleveland Ohio, he was amazed at the way the Theater performers lived. He said that joining the theater has shown him the connection and importance of farm and agriculture through the way they support it in the shows and in their lifestyles. In the summer, an average of 50 people live at the Bread and Puppet farmhouse. They provide month long internships, they perform locally for parades, town days and holiday celebrations. The company also joins protests. Sometimes openly with signs, other times subtly with their shows, said Friedman. According to Friedman the Theater is not against any one person or thing but they are anti-war, anti-big business, anti-technological takeover and anti-anything corporate.



Above Photo by Tabitha Fitzgerald-LSC students practicing for upcoming show during the Bread and Puppet workshop.

Left Photo by Sam Gaddes-Bread and Puppet performer serenades the audience.

Below small photo- Justin Landers prepares his volenteers for what comes next.

Below Photo by Tabitha Fitzgerald- Rose Friedman lays out the "cheap art" that is a tradition of the show.

Botom Photo by Tabitha Fitzgerald-Bread and Puppet Band at the workshop. From-left to right; Justin Landers, Lydia Stein, Rose Friedman, Bill Storz, Danny McNamara and unknown.

Fun Page

Columbus Day Word Search

L E I F E R I K S S O N I T S
Y W W U O Y I N E D A T T N N
N R A N I N Y F I X N Z A N J
S W E S I Q T A D A I C L E D
B A Z V B J M J N G I Y Y W B
V I N M A E D P I R A I B W X
F O I T R L I P E X A Z V O Y
W R Y I A N S M B P E G J R V
D Q C A T M A N T K X T Y L I
Q A B A G E A R T C H Q V D P
Y P G T V E E R Y A D I L O H
O W L I F D X M I U F K X Z K
R X T E R M N I B A O L L E A
Y A J U N U H R I S L S O K L
N Q M K I O B S P I C E S C S

America	New World
Holiday	Nina
Indies	Pinta
Italy	Santa Maria
Leif Eriksson	Slavery
Murder	Spices
Native Americans	Voyage

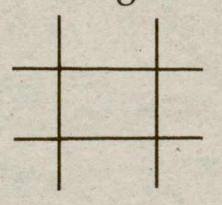
Word Jumble

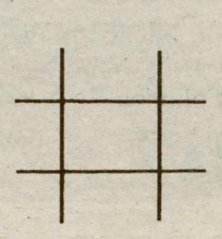
Unscramble these words inspired from articles in this issue!

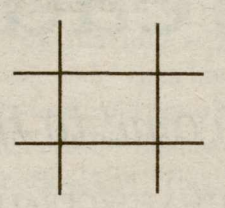
LAFL REBAK
VSEALE
LOUBMOUSC YAD
SRNCONTIOC
UTIOTOI
PETPUSP
TIRMTENREE
KOKBO DIGRENA
DELNECALSURE
TICPOSAILNI

Tic Tac Toe

Challenge your friends or teachers to this game!







Sudoku

2	5			1	3	9		
1			2		6			4
		7		9				
	3		1	6	8		4	
				7		6		
9			5		7			1
		1	9	3			5	8

Solutions from last issues puzzle

3	6	1	5	7	9	2	4	8
9	8	7	6	4	2	5	3	1
2	4	5	1	8	3	7	9	6
1	7	4	2	9	6	8	5	3
6	5	2	8	3	7	4	1	9
8	9	3	4	1	5	6	2	7
7	2	9	3	6	4	1	8	5
5	3	8	7	2	1	9	6	4
4	1	6	9	5	8	3	7	2

Horoscopes

Libra (Sept 23-Oct 22) The stresses of life are beginning to weigh heavily on your shoulders. You are feeling overwhelmed. Take a step back from your everyday routine and find out what truly matters to you.

Scorpio (Oct 23-Nov 21) Go out! There are new people in town and staying in may cause you to miss out on opportunities and new relationships.

Sagittarius (Nov 22-Dec 21) New events will help you to realize what needs to be altered or discarded in your relationships. Stay true to your principles when making major decisions. After the renovations are made you will be much happier.

Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 19) Your love life is going to take a turn for the better. Keep in mind that it is inextricably linked to travel plans in the near future.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 18) Financial struggles may be on the back burner for now but your situation may worsen. Instead of looking for new resources for cash, look at whether or not you are using your resources efficiently.

Pisces (Feb 19-Mar 20) Your relationship with those in authority is electric. Open conflict is in the cards. Take it easy or you may find yourself in a situation you can't get yourself out of.

Aries (Mar 21-Apr 19) Conflict in a relationship has been following you around for quite sometime and it is time for you to make a final decision. Make sure you take the time to find out what you really want.

Taurus (Apr 20-May 20) Believe it or not an old flame can still be rekindled, but only if you are sure it is what you both want. A lot of effort is required but it will definitely turn out for the best.

Gemini (May 21-Jun 21) A few nights out have turned into far too many. It's time you strap down and focus on the work that needs to get done. Start now before it's too late.

Cancer (Jun 22-Jul 22) You've been far too reserved lately. There are opportunities you are missing out on because of it. Take a look at yourself and realize that you deserve more confidence.

Leo (Jul 23-Aug 22) Conflict, Conflict, Conflict! Take a few deep breaths and realize that things aren't as bad as they seem, and if they are, it's probably your fault. Stop blaming others for your faults and you'll be much better off.

Virgo (Aug 23-Sept 22) Time management has been a difficult feat for you, but you're finally getting the hang of it. Catch up on back work and you'll be feeling much more at ease.

The Critic is looking for people to fill the following positions:
Reporters
Photographers
Advertisers
Layout Designers
Graphic Designers

The Critic Meets Thursdays from 6:00 p.m.-8:40 p.m. in Lac 409.
Contact Mary Wheeler at mary.wheeler@lyndonstate.edu
or critic@lyndonstate.edu for more information.

Columbus Day ignites mass E-mail debate

BY ROBERT RUMRILL
COMMUNITY NEWS EDITOR

Recently there have been numerous e-mails sent to all of LSC in regards to Columbus Day and whether it is an appropriate holiday to celebrate. The e-mail that sparked this debate originated from professor Janet Bennion in a response to a minor e-mail sent out from Harry Swett of the mail-room. While Swett's e-mail had nothing to do with the history or the politics behind Columbus Day, it somehow managed to create a controversy. "Columbus day is an abomination" Bennion said. "We, as a nation, should not be recognizing the confused lost fellow who somehow ended up in the Americas; who initiated the greatest exploitation and genocide of any indigenous peoples on the earth."

Professor Metin Yersal responded, "If we insist on having white folks discover America, the honors should go to Leif Eriksson and his merry band of Vikings who had a short lived settlement in Canada four centuries before 'Columbus the confused' landed on the Caribbean Islands".

These quotes led to countless opinions that would soon clutter the online mailboxes of everyone with a LSC email address. Soon there were people debating both sides of the controversy. Student Vinny Petrarca commented, "Were not celebrating Christopher Columbus so as much as the idea of it; the bravery of the men and women who came to this new world and took it upon themselves to settle. It's just a day on the calendar that's supposed to remind us of the struggle people placed upon themselves to create this [nation]."

Bennion came back with a rebuttal in another email saying, "We are making early white, European, colonizers, such as Columbus, into heros and saints…in reality they sanctioned torture, enslavement, and cruelty against hundreds of thousands of innocent peoples. If we honor Columbus for his conquest of inhabitants of the New World, we are, in effect, honoring murder, rape, and torture."

Intertwined within these emails was the occasional argument about whether email was the best place to have this discussion. "Is it the place of LSC administrators to spout political views? To me…taking advantage of a power position…is non-professional. History is for the individual to interpret. The congress decided that the discovery of America is an appropriate celebration," said Professor Charles Kezar.

Yersel quickly argued back saying "Having a discussion on the discovery of America is not a political issue…Moreover, history is not for the individual to interpret…It is a lack of proper information that may make some issues look fuzzy."

Agreeing with Yersel's views, professor William Biddle responded in an email saying "The purpose of academic freedom…is not to hear commonplace notions and old truths re-told but to take guidance to learn to examine ideas…and to formulate questions about those theories, test those answers, and thereby discover new ways of understanding why such theories have been propounded in the first place."

Soon enough there was an email from LSC president Carol Moore stating that the emails are an "inappropriate use of out email system…there are other venues for the civil exchange of ideas and opinions."

So after all of this controversy that has caught the eye of everyone with a LSC email address including Moore, there is only one real question left: What does Swett think? "This whole dialogue took place thanks to freedom of speech. Everyone should thank a veteran and not take this freedom for granted."

Smoking cessation classes return to LSC

BY MARY WHEELER
CRITIC EDITOR

Alice Anton, knows the difficulties smokers face when trying kick their mid day cravings. Just four years ago, she was also one of many looking to send her smoking habit to the curb.

one of the coordinators for the smoking cessation programming, Anton feels confident that this semester, students, faculty, and staff will take advantage of the smoking cessation classes being offered to LSC free of charge.

"One of the biggest problems smokers face is that many of them think it's too late to quit," Anton said. "Through education and classes, we want to make sure people can achieve as non-smokers."

The classes will be provided by the Smoking/Tobacco Education Committee (an ad-hoc of the Health and Safety Committee.)

The committee is dedicated to developing a campaign to raise awareness of LSC's policies relative to smoking and of the hazards of smoking and tobacco, as well as assist the LSC community in overcoming their smoking habits.

According to Brenda Sweet, Chair of the Health and Safety Committee, the Smoking/Tobacco Education Committee began meeting in January 2006.

Another concern that has been discussed amongst the college community that the committee is currently addressing is the substantial amount of cigarette butts left behind by smokers. The committee is hoping to find a solution that will be acceptable to everyone.

The classes are intended to provide information to smokers of the long term effects of their habits, but present the information in a non-lecturing way.

One of the classes focuses entirely on psychological support, and ways that students can cope with personal issues and depression. The classes will also focus on nicotine dependence, exercise, nutrition, and stress management.

Students are also encouraged to receive additional support at the Brown house, where trained individuals provide free counseling and health tips Mondays-Fridays 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

"We aren't going to preach to people about the effects of smoking because everyone knows about them. Our goal is to give those in need tips to be successful. It's a great gift you can give yourself," Anton said.

The costs of these programs will be funded by the Northern Vermont Regional Hospital (NVRH) who will be providing patches and gums as well as several staff members.

Also being offered for six weeks is free or reduced nicotine replacement therapy for those that qualify.

The classes will run on Tuesdays from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. at the following dates: Oct. 17, 24, 31, Sept. 7, 14, 28

Tabitha Fitzgerald, Photo Editor
LSC construction going on in the Vail parking lot. A 15,000 gallon double wall fuel tank is being installed.

The big dig of LSC comes to a close

BY DEREK PALMIERI
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

The lack of parking space and the confusion from the end of the day rush to leave the Vail parking lot will come to an end this week. The cause of the added stress for motorists came in the form of a 15 thousand gallon fuel tank along with the removal of said tank and its replacement. "The tank that was there before the project was a single walled 15 thousand gallon fuel tank that was installed in 1983," Jim Gallagher, Director of Physical Plant at LSC, said. "The tank that was installed was also a 15 thousand gallons but it is now up to codes of safety, this unit is a double walled tank," Gallagher said.

One of the questions raised by many of the student and staff members was, "Why now?" I was a clear that the project was going to take up a sizable section of the Vail parking lot for both the tank's removal and the placement of the construction equipment.

"When planning the remove, we were trying to take up as little space as possible in the lot," Gallagher said. With that in mind, the construction company hired for the removal was regularly moving the barriers and equipment inward to make the obstruction of the lot as small an inconvenience as possible.

Still others asked, "Did the tank really need to go?" "For years we [Lyndon State College] have know that the tank was out of date and needed to be replaced by only this year with the help of capital funding were we able to get the removal work completed," continued Gallagher.

However even with the funds in place, problems seem to find their way to the project. "The removal was supposed to be started back in August and finished before the start of the new school year, but all summer there were delays in getting the tank that we needed. These delays caused us to have to start the project at a less appealing time," Gallagher said.

Sam Gaddes, Critic Staff

MATTHEW SCAGNELLI WINDS UP FOR A POWERFUL KICK.

Calkins achieves personal best at championship

By JAKE MARDIN
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

The LSC cross-country team had another solid outing with a strong performance at the Vermont State Intercollegiate Championships last Saturday.

Sophomore Lyndsay Calkins, coming off her record-setting performance at the Pop Crowell Invitational last weekend, finished in the runner-up slot in the five-kilometer race, with a time of 18:22.

Middlebury Colleges' Erin Archard was able to pull ahead late in the race to win with a time of 18:19.

Calkins' second place finish was significant because it was a first time in 12 years that a runner from a school other than Middlebury College finished in the top six at the VSIC.

Despite the strong performance from Calkins, the women's team still finished the day with an incomplete score, while Middlebury College came in first.

In the men's division, the Hornets earned a fourth place finish on the 8-kilometer course. LSC was led by sophomore Bobby Penney, who finished sixteenth with a time of 27:16. The other top runners for LSC included Jonathan Harty at 27:57, and Jacob Silverio, with a time of 28:30.

Middlebury College finished the day on top of the men's division.

The next time LSC will be in cross country action is Saturday, Oct. 7 at the Runnin' Monks Invitational in Standish, Maine.

Mens soccer comes up short

By ANDREW KOCH
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

There has been a lot of soccer played here at LSC. Last week was especially busy for Lyndon's men's soccer team. However, the team only went 1-3 for the week.

The team played four games in seven days last week. The men lost all three of their home games last week, each by 1-0 scores: Mitchell on Sunday, Johnson State on Thursday, and Green Mountain College on Saturday. The team's lone win came on the road last Tuesday, a 4-0 win at Vermont Technical College.

Last week was the second such stretch the players have faced this season; earlier this year, the team played five games in nine days, starting with Alumni Weekend four weeks ago and finishing on September 17. However, as grueling as last week might have been, and as promising as it looked for the team to improve to a winning record, they didn't get much to show for it. By far, the biggest star of the week was junior goaltender Jeff Giroux, who kept his team in every game and gave them a chance to win.

"We moved the ball well against VTC," said sophomore striker Craig Salvagno. "We came prepared to play against VTC and Johnson." He did say, however, that there were mistakes in the last five minutes of the game against Johnson that ended up costing the team that one goal. The downsides of the past week: "I wasn't too excited because I was being taken away from my schoolwork," Salvagno said.

"Clearly it takes a toll on your body. I was really sore," junior halfback, Tony McAloon, said.

"We had room for improvement, but we played hard," McAloon said. "We need to learn to get that winning lifestyle. Winning is a way of life."

The big question many people might have about a week like this is what the team's practices were like, especially since practice time was so limited, with only a day between each game.

"Practice wasn't as hard as it was last week," said Salvagno, referring to two weeks ago. He said that Coach Pete Kellaway wanted the players to do leg work and pool workouts. Salvagno also said that last Wednesday, the assistant coaches (Jake Toof and Nick Rowe) ran the team's workout.

"When you've got games like that, you can't take a break, even a little" in practice, McAloon said.

The Hornets have three more home games before the end of the season: Tuesday against College of St. Joseph's (VT), October 15 against St. Joseph's College (ME), and October 18 will be Senior Day against Norwich University.

Sam Gaddes, Critic Staff

WOMEN'S SOCCER: ERIN SHELTON, # 14, AIDS TEAM IN GAME AGAINST JOHNSON STATE.

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES MEETS TUESDAYS AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE STUDENT CENTER.

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If you have some artwork you would like to submit, put it in a folder and place it in Chandler Gilman's door box (Vail 466).

All the cool kids are doing it.

The Critic

Serving the student voice of the Northeast Kingdom

Lyndonville, Vermont | Friday, October 20, 2006 | Volume 53, Number 3

President to Rugby Club: You're guilty, see ya next semester

By KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
Critic Staff

The LSC rugby team will not be able to come together as a club to play games or practice until the end of the fall 2006 semester.

The LSC rugby team must undergo a hazing education program as well as sign an anti-hazing pledge before they can play again. The sanctions were imposed at the conclusion of an investigation involving allegations that hazing and under-aged drinking occurred at a rugby social on Sept. 9.

"We do feel that hazing was part of the social as well as under-aged drinking," LSC President Carol Moore said. "We take this very seriously and cannot allow it to continue."

The reason behind the team being suspended during the investigation is due to the fact that the information received about the hazing was definitive and first hand, Leo Sevigny, associate dean of student affairs, said.

The investigation found two types of incidents occurred on Sept. 9 that LSC considers hazing. One involved an obstacle course that two rugby "veterans" ran through first for demonstration purposes.

The people who brought the hazing incident to the LSC administration's attention reported a sense of being peer pressured into running the obstacle course, Sevigny said.

The second incident, also occurring on Sept. 9, involved players lying down and having beer poured onto them. While this was done on a volunteer basis, not all players knew what they were getting into, Sevigny said.

Under the suspension, the rugby team is not allowed to come together as a club and hold practices or play games. It will also be up to the LSC House of Representatives to decide whether or not to allow the rugby team to have a representative at House meetings, Whittaker said.

The suspension ends when the fall semester does, according to Moore. The team will not be allowed to meet again until it finds a coach, something it was working on prior to the investigation and suspension.

While the investigation has been concluded, Sevigny reminded rugby players that the team is being watched. Meeting to play rugby as a team will result in the suspension being lengthened. Further incidents of hazing or harassment of players thought to have brought the matter to the administrations attention will also result in the suspension being extended, Sevigny said.

Thrash Session

Dave Giambarresi, Special to The Critic

Richie Bowen, a Johnson State College student, catches some air after hitting a mini-ramp at Lyndon State College's skating area on Saturday, Oct. 14. Conditions were perfect for members of The Dagger's, an LSC extreme sports group, during Saturday's event 'Rampjam.' More on the event can be found on page 5.

Christopher Columbus - American hero or cold blooded murderer?

By ROB RUMRILL
Critic Staff

In the wake of the Columbus Day email debate, Professor Janet Bennion asked her husband, Ojibway elder, John Potter to come and speak about the holiday through the perspective of a native American. "Native people don't care about Columbus...don't care which European explorer stumbled onto these shores claiming they were first."

Half Ojibway native, Potter was born and raised on a northern Wisconsin reservation until he was around ten. Never knowing his father, he moved to Chicago with his Catholic mother and step-father, later attending college at Utah State to study wild-life science. Now a successful artist of western landscapes he travels around the globe giving lectures.

Potter went on to speak about the 20-30 million people inhabiting North America and their accomplishments. "Extensive trade net-

See 'Columbus' on PG 2

Governor Douglas aims to keep Vermonters in statewide colleges

By MARY WHEELER
Critic Staff

In an effort to increase the number of students continuing on in higher education, Vermont Governor Jim Douglas proposed a $175 million Vermont Promise Scholarship program in 2006. The amount would last 15 years and would be allocated towards giving financial assistance to Vermont students attending any of the Vermont colleges.

In return, any students who accepted money were expected to remain in Vermont three years after graduation as a way to increase the amount of young adults living and working in Vermont. While the scholarship didn't pass Vermont lawmakers, Douglas is continuing to promote his plan.

According to Robert Clark, Chancellor to the VSC, Vermont's future depends on higher education.

"Vermont is facing a huge challenge in the next decade as the high school graduation numbers will decrease by 26%," Clark said. "By 2030 there will be 103,000 more retirees in Vermont while the total population will only grow by 100,000."

Clark elaborated on a proposal for next generation funding. This included $1 million to expand dual enrollment to encourage Vermont students to start college while in high school. The proposal also allocated $3 million towards scholarships meant for first generation and low income families. The intention was to increase the percentage of high school graduates who would also continue their education in Vermont. The final portion of the proposal was to allocate $1 million to allow the VSC to develop and maintain a statewide system of workforce training and education.

"I was sort of in support of the Governor's scholarship proposal. It would be good for Vermont's economy because it will bring more people here, but personally I want to go out and explore the world," Jennifer Salmon, student and Vermont resident, said.

"It's good to keep people in Vermont, but there's got to be a better way to keep people here then bribing them with money. You can't force people to live here if there aren't any jobs." Dan Travis, student and Vermont resident, said.

"If the state is paying for students to go to school, it's the students obligation to give back to the state," Jonathan Brinkerhoff, LSC stu-

See 'Colleges' on PG 2

News Briefs

Three Lyndon State College professors have been named to the 2006 edition of Who's Who. Barry Hertz and Rachel Siegel have been named to the "Who's Who Among American Teachers," and Lori Werdenschlag has been named to the "Marquis Who's Who of American Women."

Hertz earned his Ed.D. at Temple University and has taught in Lyndon's Education Department for 26 years. Siegel has been at Lyndon for 16 years and holds an M.B.A. from Yale. She is a member of the Business Administration Department. Werdenshalg is a professor of psychology and holds a Ph.D. from Tulane. This is her 14th year at Lyndon.

Who's Who listings are selected from nominations made by students who have been included in the Who's Who Among American High School Students and its sister Sports Edition and those named to the National Dean's List.

The Marquis Who's Who is a biographical reference work on the country's most accomplished and innovative women.
nity.

With just over 650 students in its residence halls, Lyndon State College has committed to getting at least half of them to swap an incandescent bulb from their rooms for a free compact fluorescent bulb (CFL).

Working with Efficiency Vermont, the Vermont Campus Energy Group, and the National ENERGY STAR Change a Light, Change the World Campaign, LSC is among 24 Vermont colleges to participate in the 2006 Vermont Collegiate Change a Light Challenge, which aims to install a total of 20,000 energy efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) at Vermont's college and university campuses during the month of October.

Replacing 300 incandescent bulbs with CFLs translates to a potential annual cost savings of over $1,700 or approximately one megawatt of electricity. Statewide, a total of 20,000 CFLs will save participating schools approximately $226,000 in electricity costs and prevent more than two million pounds of greenhouse gas emissions.

Last year's campaign helped to save more than $2 million in energy costs and prevented more than 33 million pounds of greenhouse gas emissions nationwide.

For more information or to get involved visit www.energystar.gov/joincal.

Campus living: Too costly for students?

By JOSHUA DAMASO
Critic Staff

With what many students consider to be limited independence tied in with the escalating cost of on-campus living, some are finding their home away from home to be away from the confines of LSC.

"You don't have to worry about food plans or rides; you're more independent," said senior Katie Barrett, who resides off-campus. "I didn't want to deal with the 'rules' of living on campus. I [also] did it because of no interest on loans."

For some students, living off-campus is cheaper than living on-campus because it helps them owe less money to student loan companies after graduation.

LSC's yearly out-of-state student room costs are $4,134, with Vermont residents paying $2,067. The current average rent in the Lyndonville area for a two-bedroom apartment is $420 per month - which over the cost of a nine-month calendar school year totals about $3,780.

Split between two roommates, an out-of-state student saves approximately $2,244 (before utilities, if not included), and an in-state student saves approximately $177 (also before utilities) when living off-campus. The catch comes when a student has to consider paying now or paying later.

"I think it's better to live off campus because the cost of living on campus is higher," said Junior, Jesse Ballard, who commutes from St. Johnsbury. "It's especially good for upper classmen because it makes for an easier transition into the real world."

If a student pays for room and board throughout the school year without borrowing money, savings can further accumulate when loan interest rates are factored into on-campus living costs. The catch, however, is making sure they don't borrow the extra money to live off-campus.

If an out-of-state student uses student loans to pay for on-campus living, costs can exceed $16,500 after four years of school. At a 6 percent locked interest rate with a 10-year payback option, a student can end up paying back well over $20,000 - a number that can rise significantly if the payback time exceeds ten years.

With approximate interest rates factored in, a 36-month, four-year rental fee for on-campus living can go from approximately $450 per month to roughly $600 per month for out-of-state students who borrow money. The issue drives many students away from campus housing opportunities and into area apartments. But even with the possible savings, some students believe that there is more to be gained by living on-campus.

"I have never lived off campus or even attempted to," said Senior, Mike Campbell. "My friends have lived off campus and said they save money but I've enjoyed on-campus living all my years here."

"I don't think the financial liability of going to college [overall] is fair, so why not add a little more so you can live on campus? It's you're damned a little more if you do or your damned a little less if you don't," Campbell said.

Ryan Ayers, an LSC junior, said that living off-campus can be a little too overbearing for a college student.

"I don't live off-campus because I can't maintain a job living off-campus," she said. "I like living on-campus [because] it's easier to be involved. If there's a comedian or a band you don't have to drive late, you just have to walk back to your room."

Ayers added that she doesn't think there is a big financial pinch added to those living on-campus once they graduate, especially when the benefits of living more comfortably while still in college are factored in.

Mary Etter, an LSC staff member, said it's especially vital for freshman to remain on campus. Etter said that students build themselves socially while living on-campus more than they would off-campus because there is a more communal aspect to on-campus living.

"There are pros and cons, [but] I think it's a shame if somebody never lives on campus," Etter said. "I think you make connections."

For some students, however, the thought of a secure financial future lingers in their minds as they annually sign off on five-figure student loans and any route taken to cut the cost of borrowing seems to be a route worth considering.

"It is either live on campus now and pay later or struggle to live off campus," Ayers said.

Columbus:
A hero to anyone other than Americans?

works, thousand of languages, families, living breathing human beings; these were not specimens to be sent back to Spain...[They were] told to bow down to a cross or the throne from across the water or be systematically killed."

Potter continued his lecture on the morbid history of this country saying, "Every explorer did the same thing - they wiped out people that initially helped them - and we celebrate these guys? What about Crazy Horse? What about Tecumseh? What about Mother Theresa or the Dalai Llama? They were about as American as Christopher Columbus - an Italian sponsored by Spain, and a murderer documented by his own crew in the Caribbean."

When explaining the past and present circumstances of the Native American people, Potter described it as being "under a terrorist regime for over 500 years." Not to sound without hope, he continued by saying, "We have always been here, the very mud of this continent. We have been here, are still here, and will always be here."

"You are not walking on dirt, or soil, you are walking on the flesh and bone of our ancestors - We have been here for that long."

Colleges:
Scholorship intended to keep Vermonters interested in state schools

dent and Utah resident, said.

"It's a novel idea, however I think the money could be better used to expand the infrastructure of the state in terms of bringing better jobs to Vermont, or having additional perks or incentives' to stay in this state," Lars Christensen, student and SGA President said.

AIDS Testing becoming routine part of checkups

By CRYSTAL JAMES
Critic Staff

Over 22 million people have died from AIDS. In the United States alone, over 1 million people are living with HIV. An estimated 40,000 new infections occur each year. What's even scarier? Over 90 percent of people carrying HIV do not know they have it, according to BBC News. All this is due to a lack of testing.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention declared last month that all health care providers should routinely test people, age 13 and up, for HIV. Thus enforcing early detection and making people more aware of spreading HIV.

Despite the benefits of testing and the urging of government health workers, testing may not become routine for quite some time. According to MSNBC, public health experts say testing in many parts of the country probably won't get going for a year, maybe longer, because of a complex tangle of state laws and the reluctance of some family doctors.

But how imperative is getting an HIV test? LSC senior Alex Ibey said that "getting tested is a good thing, it's safer and it will give better statistics for research purposes."

However, the lack of trust when it comes to the confidentiality of family doctors may lead to people not wanting to get tested. While Lauren Morgan, a senior, agrees that the testing is a good thing, "Only if the results are kept confidential, otherwise it is a violation of privacy," Morgan said.

Students and faculty show concern with knowledge as well as their own safety and privacy. The need for HIV/AIDS testing to become routine indicates that the statistics are elevated far from what they used to be and it is important for society to be informed, aware, and protected.

Dingdongs & Goofballs:

Who wants to have sex with my girlfriend?

By: DILLON ELIASSEN
Critic correspondent

Things have been a little sad here at the Dingdongs & Goofballs offices for the past couple of weeks. You see, my girlfriend and I broke up after I confronted her about seeing another man. I started to get a little suspicious when she started asking me for $100 in gas money after every date we had together, especially since she lives locally and gas prices have been going down. One night I followed her to see what was going on, and I saw her meeting with another man. When I confronted them on the corner of Depot St. and Route 5, I realized he wasn't her boyfriend; he was her pimp.

Boy was my face red! And not just because I was embarrassed, but because the pimp hit me when I asked for the gas money back. I should've seen the signs: the "gas money," the really overdone make-up and ass-cleavage-exposing miniskirt, and the No-Kissing-On-The-Mouth rule. But I've been so busy lately with school, work and buying beer for L.I. students that I didn't even realize what kind of a relationship I was in; an expensive relationship that I liken to running a gauntlet of possible STDs.

The point I'm trying to make is that while in college, we experience many different types of relationships, from the high school romance that extends into college, to repeated hook-ups with a beerslut whose name you think rhymes with "Andy." Sometimes a hook-up gets really awkward. During my freshman year here I fooled around with my roommate's sister. That was awkward. Not so much because he walked in on us, but because the futon we were on was stuck and I couldn't get it to recline. My old roommate did get me back for hooking up with his sister, though; he told me about picking my ex up in his car when she was standing around in the alley behind Phat Kats.

Even though we're broken up, it still hurts that she's seeing, well, A LOT of guys. I guess it's because I still love her.

SGA not fulfilling duties

By: JOSHUA JAMES GERVAIS
Editorial Editor

"University politics are vicious precisely because the stakes are so small." — Henry Kissinger

Once again, the race for Senate wasn't really a race. The fact that anyone who completes a petition to be put on the ballet is elected is no secret. I know one senator who won through a write-in campaign that he wasn't aware of until after the election was over. There just aren't enough candidates for an actual contest. You could say that it's the student's fault for not getting involved in student government, but saying that doesn't make the process anymore democratic, and isn't that the point of student government?

It's hard to be certain how many positions in the House are contested—in years past I've seen the position handed to anyone who was willing to put up with the meetings. There's nothing that saps my will to live more than watching the brand of pettiness and infighting that goes on during a House meeting. The fact that people volunteer to participate in them makes me truly sad; those are the people that make the house so unpleasant to begin with so they can play at politics. If these people would only use some logic and maybe a little empathy of their fellow human beings, then House meetings might not be such a chore for everyone else.

I'm not saying that there aren't good people in student government—there are—the problem is with the structure and culture of student government. The structure is currently preventing the voice of the student body (their votes) from having any real impact, and the culture prevents anything from being done about it. In some ways the culture is worse than the structure since it authorizes placing the importance of incidentals such as a club's constitution over what that club actually does for students.

If the student government isn't really representing the student body, shouldn't it be replaced with something that does? Adjust the way Senate is elected to make it sure senators are being chosen and aren't simply volunteering; pull the House out of the muck and mire of competing for resources; and if these things can't be done, raze it to the ground and replace it with something that does the job better. Sadly, this is impossible to do because the only people that seem to have the drive have already collected their positions and have nothing to gain from a true democracy.

Lack of recycling program is sickening

To the Editor

One of the biggest problems in today's world is our disposable culture. We are using more and more plastic products that can take up to 250 years to decompose and putting them in dumps at a record pace. The amount of land free for dumping is decreasing so much that in some third world countries families are living on top of dumps.

It's sad to see at this college we're contributing to the problem by not offering any recycling receptacle. The only noticable ones at the college are by the Hornet's Nest on the other side of campus. No student is going to be able to walk there every time they have an empty plastic bottle.

I would like to see the school add more recycling receptacles around the campus, especially in the courtyard. It will be at little cost to the school and the benefits of having them are endless. I think it's time Lyndon State took a stand and helped stop the growing waste problem.

Jeremy Rossiter, LSC freshman

To the Editor

First of all, I would like to thank The Critic for covering the Bread and Puppet First World Insurrection Circus. However, I feel that it is my duty to inform the public that there was some important information left out in their article.

Students for Global Change originally thought of Bread and Puppet because one of our former members, (Angel Jackson) wanted to bring them here to inform others about important political matters in an entertaining way. The circus helped the club educate the public on issues such as animal rights, war, and jobs. Students for Global Change are all about informing and educating the public about all these issues. As it was stated in the article 'Bread and Puppet,' "...they are anti-war, anti-big business, anti-technological takeover, and anti-anything corporate." Students for Global Change are also about making a strong difference in peoples' lives. We can do this by either educating or going into communities and helping out with a project, (i.e. building project). The Bread and Puppet Circus helped Students for Global Change publicize our interests, in hopes to gain more active members.

We had a great turn out for volunteers. The volunteers, who spent half their days dress-rehearsing for the show, should be applauded for their work. Some names should have been said in the article and pictures of the students and community members who were involved should have been taken. I myself was in the workshops throughout the day, and even though the acts were simple to learn, it took a lot of energy and enthusiasm to put on such a fantastic but funny show!

On a personal note, my name is Julie Deslandes. And for those who have not heard of me, I'm the President of Students for Global Change. I volunteered with Bread and Puppet not only for my personal enjoyment, but to represent the club. I wanted to make sure things ran as smoothly as possible throughout the day. For example, coming with a lot of enthusiasm and volunteering to be the leader of some of the major group acts. I am personally appalled that my name was not mentioned once in the article. I also helped with advertising the event and I introduced Bread and Puppet to the audience. My efforts should have been appreciated.

Most importantly though, the volunteers should have been recognized! The main purpose was not only to be anti-war or anti-big business, but also the performers inside the show who made it all possible! Personally, the show did change me for life! I never really thought I could act so well, in terms of being random and silly. It gave me a new appreciation for the performing arts, and also made me comfortable with speaking and acting in front of large groups.

And I'm hoping that the volunteers have similar thoughts. It was so much fun being silly and making people laugh! And at the same time, informing them on issues that our society faces today. I think the volunteers also would agree that it was because of our enthusiasm and all-day effort that made this show so spectacular.

Sincerely, Julie Deslandes
President, SGC

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'When a Stranger Calls' fails to deliver

By JOSHUA DAMASO
Critc STAFF

Sometimes, while kicked back on a sofa or chair and enjoying a warm, buttery bag of popcorn, a film viewer loses the train of thought that comes with properly viewing a film. They get caught up in eating their popcorn, or drinking their soda, or by the various daydreams that pop in and out of their minds as their eyes thoughtlessly gaze upon a movie screen or a television set.

What happens, consequentially, is that the viewer gets directed away from the art and true messages within a film. The distractions that come along with a moviegoer's experience tend to take away from what a viewer can truly learn; which, in turn, lessens the relatable aspects within a film as we take our focus away from the progression of a story.

In a nutshell, if you don't focus on a film while you watch it, you might as well have never watched it at all, because nothing is gained to the viewer.

The lesson to be learned within attentive film viewing is lost all too often. Some people think that Forrest Gump is just about a mentally challenged man, others think that 2001: A Space Odyssey is just about a killer spacecraft, while other people believe that The Lord of the Rings is an exploration into a world that actually once existed. When people just look at the surface of a film, deliberately placed messages are lost. The loss of important messages and lessons can be blamed on one of two subjects; people either have difficulty paying proper attention to a film or a movie's filmmakers did not effectively relate their messages.

"When a Stranger Calls" (2006) defies both of these examples. Its true brilliancy lies not in a relatable message or a lesson learned but in leaving the viewer with no absolute plot or idea to apprehend; a true piece of genius worked with pristine craft into a seemingly lifeless, grave attempt at filmmaking. It is true catch-22 – there seems to be no plot, storyline, or message. This film was made simply for a viewer who can not view at all, merely a naked message for the moviegoer with an eye for complexity and sophistication within a narrative.

Jill Johnson, the film's lead character, is not like us all. She is a teenage babysitter who lives in a seemingly upscale community, fit with a secure life that hardly relates to the reality most viewers experience in their daily lives.

Her father, who appears to be a successful middle-to-high class businessman, takes charge on our seemingly flaky and dull, but purposefully (again, brilliant) hardly-relatable lead character. Jill, being a little careless, overuses her cell phone minutes and ran up her father's bill, and to punish our hasty lead, he takes her phone and car away from her for a full month (ouch!).

Jill, to pay off the cell phone bill, baby sits for a wealthy doctor at his extravagant and state-of-the-art home. At this point, because of the film's opening sequence, we already know that there is a babysitter killer on the loose with what will surely be revealed as sincere and purposeful motives as the film progresses.

An hour into the hour-and-a-half long movie the filmmakers build suspense in a way that would typically be thought of as 'boring' or 'thoughtless' – they have close to nothing happen to evolve the storyline. What we have been given two-thirds into the movie is that Jill is lonely, she hates her former best friend for kissing her boyfriend, and someone is calling the house she is babysitting at and not saying anything at all.

Between scares, like motion-activated lights randomly turning on and a black cat out-of-nowhere, there is nothing happening at all; just Jill, her loneliness, and the frightening sound of a telephone ring every two or three minutes. The tension is overwhelming as a viewer roots for our unlikable character to find out where the calls are coming from, and why.

Eventually, Jill becomes frightened and calls the police. Clearly, the police are unable to come out and help her because of the time that it takes dispatch to process her call, so with the police's hands tied, Jill tries to get the phone calls to last a whole minute so operators can trace the location of the calls.

Between a few masterfully-thought out regular calls from friends – again, the tension becomes overwhelming – and some more lights turning on and off, Jill starts to feel like something, or someone, is up to something.

After finding the body of her former best friend in the upstairs bathroom of the dead-silent house, Jill realizes there is a killer in the house; a terrible reality confirmed when the police trace the calls to within the house itself. Most viewers would think that Jill would have been able to hear a body being placed in the home, or perhaps the movement of another individual through the silent hallways, but no, once again, the filmmakers' genius lies in making us not have to use rationality or venture into critical thought.

Finally, our killer pops out after we see that he has been hiding in the rafters of the children's (who had been sound asleep the whole time) bedroom. A mistake that a critical thinker may make is to try to figure out just whom the killer is, and connect him to our unlikable main character's life – but these aren't average filmmakers we're talking about, these are revolutionary filmmakers.

Finally, after finding the children tucked in a cupboard by our villain, there is a short chase through the house that ends with our unlikable main character stabbing our killer through the hand with a fire poker, which also holds him in place on the floor until police arrive.

As Jill is blanketed on the side of an ambulance, we finally get a clear look at the killer's face as he drives by. The revelation is shocking.

The killer, as it turns out, is no one we know – just a ruthless killer who fell victim himself to our unlikable main character that we never wanted to see live from the beginning. Again, genius filmmaking.

Jill lives, and after a chilling dream sequence in which the killer almost gets her again while she is in a hospital with ringing phones, the movie ends.

The message? Nothing. The lesson? None. A true work of cinematic brilliance and cleverness – make the viewer believe there's something to be learned from the stale storyline and then show them that the only lesson to be learned is to not look for a lesson. Our killer had no motives, and he had no connection to our unlikable lead. The end: Brilliant.

When A Stranger Calls (2006) - 2/10

'Behind the Swoosh' takes a look at Nike sweatshops

By CALEB BYERLY
CRITIC STAFF

The Educating for Justice Campaign gave a presentation on sweatshops in Indonesia titled "Behind the Swoosh" in the Alexander Twilight Theater on October 14.

The message of the movie was to educate people on sweatshops and the dangers young workers face on a daily basis. The film touched on the lives of many sweatshop employees and the trails they face.

Lead speaker, Jim Keady, gave a powerful speech about the daily lives of the Nike workers in the developing country of Indonesia. Keady described what it was like to live as a worker in one of the Nike factories in Indonesia, where he made less than $2 a day.

"If I wanted aspirin to cure a headache, I had to give up a meal," Keady said.

After demonstrating what life would be like for a couple volunteers from the audience, Keady outlined the fundamental goal of the EJC, to make the general public aware of the working conditions of these people and to improve their lives through mass media communications.

"We owe them the recognition as human beings," Keady said.

Keady offered students with ways of getting involved to help stop sweatshops, or emailing your local congressman.

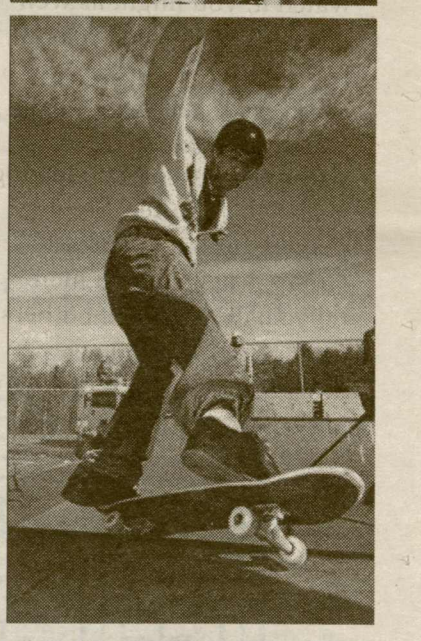
"If you decide to email your congressman, please use spell-check," Keady said.

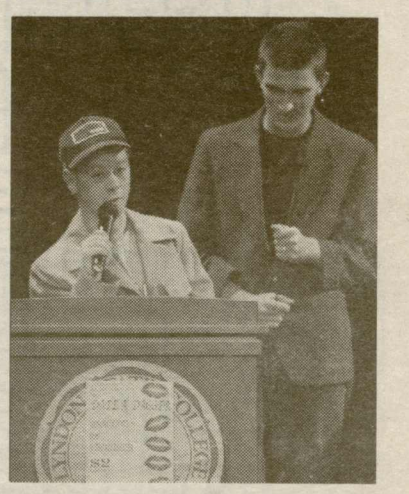
SAM GADDES, CRITIC STAFF

JOHNNY MOON AND THE BEAUTIFUL BASTARDS PERFORMED AT LSC ON FRIDAY OCTOBER 13 IN THE STUDENT CENTER. THE EVENT WAS SPONSORED BY CAMPUS ACTIVITIES BOARD.

Dag Yo!

The Daggers bombared Lyndon State with activities.





ROBERT RUMRILL
CRITIC STAFF

The Lyndon State Daggers have been busy this last week hosting events and wreaking havoc across campus. After this past week's Skate Jam and the Date-a-Dagger extravaganza, the Daggers are once again creating a name for themselves at LSC.

Launched in 2003 as a snowboard club, the Daggers have since spread into a variety of sports including skateboarding and biking. With over 70 members to date, the Daggers have done multiple projects around the community, including building a mini-ramp on campus last October and constructing a terrain park at Burke Mountain. Along with WWLR-FM, Rugby, and the Campus Activities Board, the Daggers have become one of the most popular clubs at LSC; proving themselves as a force to be reckoned with.

On October 14, the Daggers held a Skate Jam at basketball courts on campus that turned into a thrash session of epic proportions. Even though the mini-ramp got the most play that day there were boxes and rails spread out across the courts. Along with live music, supplied by WWLR-FM, there was free food and promotional gifts given away to those that attended the event. Although no competition was planned, skateboarders and bikers throughout the community came to support the Daggers.

On October 17th, Date-A-Dagger was also a success. Hosted by junior Al "Rocky" Rapice and Johnson State student Richie "Large Father" Bowen, the event was set up like the Dating Game. Daggers were put on display and asked three or more contestants hilarious questions about hypothetical dating related questions. Afterward the Dagger on display got to choose which of the participants they wanted to go on a date with. With gift certificates supplied by local restaurants, the couples were treated to complementary dinner. While starting off organized, the event quickly turned into a chaotic jumble of humor. Faster than you could say "thread the needle" fellow Daggers were bum-rushing the stage and participating as contestants. With male Daggers choosing male dates, it was pretty obvious that the barriers of sexual orientation were not an issue that night.

While both events seemed rather cluttered and unorganized, the Daggers had been planning these events for quite some time; proving that even anarchy needs some sort of structure. With a solid turnout at the last two events, the Daggers plan on holding other activities throughout the school year including a rail jam and a big air competition this winter at Burke Mountain

If it hadn't been for a group of seniors who there from day one, the club would probably just be a bunch of boarders sitting around and wasting the little amount of money provided to them by student government. So as a Dagger, next time your paths cross with President and co-founder Andrew "Andy-Bear" Deforges, Treasurer Steve "Gonzo" Mahon, Vice President Adam "Bones" Lavigne, and House Representative Jim "Jim Hat" Therrien, humble yourself in the presence of living legends.

For more Daggers info go to WWW.LyndonState.edu/DagYo

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: RICHIE "LARGE FATHER" BOWEN TEACHES IT; BEN BANKS STROLLS OFF STAGE WITH DATE LAURA APONTE; LARGE FATHER AND AL "ROCKY" RAPICE HOST DATE-A-DAGGER; STEVE "GONZO" MAHON MAKES IT LOOK EASY; NICK PICKERING DEFIES GRAVITY; LARGE FATHER COMING THROUGH ONCE AGAIN; JOEL LACOSS ONE-UPS THE COMPETITION.
PHOTO'S BY DAVE GIAMBARRESI AND STEVE MAHON

LSC Northeast Kingdom Forecast
Student Meteorologist Andrew Little

A storm system from northern Ontario and the southeast, each associated with a strong cold front, will provide us with widespread rain arriving on Thursday night through Saturday. Rain will be heavy times, especially on Friday night. Also, keep alert for power outages possible overnight on Friday and into early Saturday morning as winds could reach 30 mph. As this storm system exits our region, we will watch another system from the Great Lakes, which could provide us with more rain late Sunday afternoon.

Friday Morning (Oct 20, 2006)
Low: 47-54 F
Rain throughout the morning with winds from the north 10-15 mph. New rainfall amounts between three quarters to aninch possible.

Friday Evening (Oct 20, 2006)
High: 52-57 F
Rain showers persisting throughout the evening and will be heavy at times. New rainfall amounts between a quarter and half an inch with up to three quarters of an inch possible in localized areas. Winds from the northwest 10-15 mph.

Saturday (Oct 21, 2006)
Chance of Showers
Low: 31-38 F
High: 43-49 F
Rain showers ending in mid-morning, then becomin mostly cloudy. Winds from the west 10-15 mph with gusts up to 20 mph in localized areas. New rainfall amounts less than tenth of an inch possible.

Sunday (Oct 22, 2006)
Chance of Showers
Low: 34-39 F
High: 45-50 F
Mostly cloudy with a chance of rain showers late in the afternoon. Winds from the southeast 5-10 mph.

Get up the most up-to-date weather reports at: *apollo.lsc.vsc.edu/forecast*

Horoscopes

Libra (Sept 23-Oct 22) You are amazing in bed. Unfortunately you are not good at much else. Take some time to do some reading and writing. Discover who you really are. You will have more to offer those you care about.

Scorpio (Oct 23-Nov 21) You have lost all traces of class. Basically people are getting tired of watching you make a fool out of yourself. Maybe if you laid off the drink and the drunk, sloppy sex with strangers, you'd be a lot better.

Sagittarius (Nov 22-Dec 21) You are feeling like life is cheating you. It most certainly is; but what are you going to do? The best you can do is make a stiff one and re-evaluate. Try cooking this week, you will seduce somone through their taste buds.

Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 19) You are talented and artistic. However, you need to fight the urge to keep hurting innocent, forest animals. When people find out they may stop liking you. Keep a stick of gum in your pocket because you are going to kiss the person of your dreams this week!

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 18) You have really messed something important up. It is time to forget about it though because there is nothing you can do now. You should avoid all people with hazel eyes this week because they have malicious things in store for you.

Pisces (Feb 19-Mar 20) You are going through a time of transition. It is time to love it or lose it. If you don't treat your loved ones right they are going to realize there are better things out there. On the brightside, you are going to be spectacular on the dance floor this weekend. Work it.

Aries (Mar 21-Apr 19) You are beautiful, charming and have natural sex appeal. It is best to wait to make any move you have been planning; someone has their eye on you. Things could get steamy and lead to unexpected bliss.

Taurus (Apr 20-May 20) You need to really think about your life right now. You have a tendency of getting stuck in the same old rut. Be spontaneous. Be amazing. Do something out of your realm and you will be greatly rewarded.

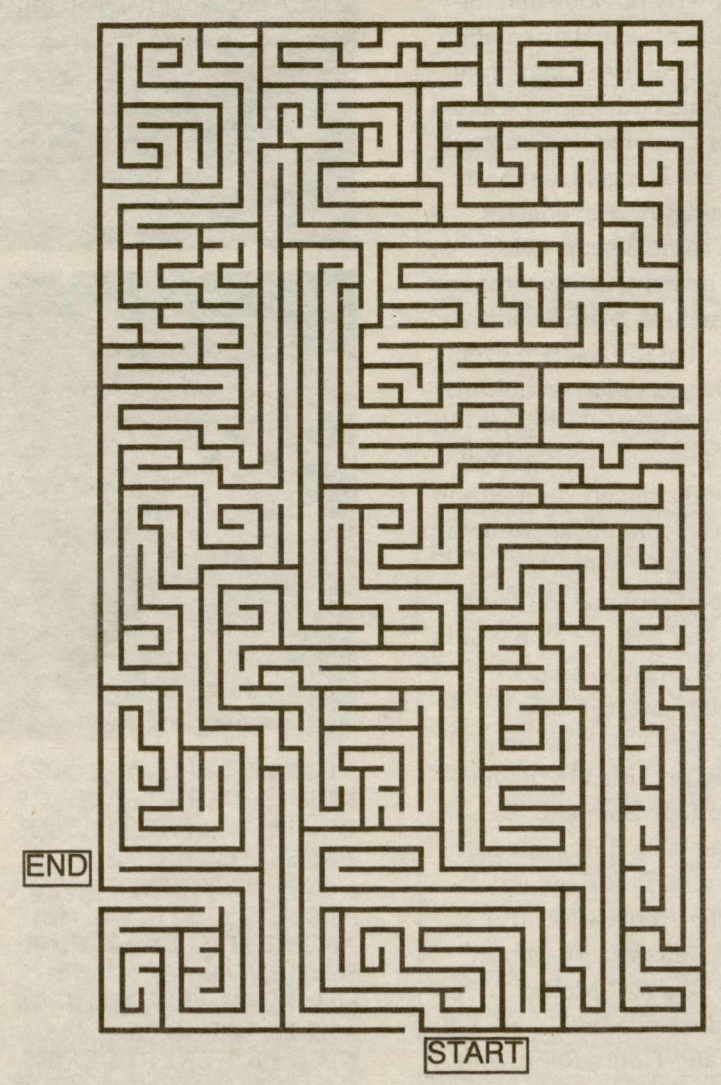
Gemini (May 21-Jun 21) You are such a sensitive soul by nature. You are sweet and shy. Someone is going to tempt you into being naughty...let them. Get in touch with your inner passion; you are irresistible this week.

Cancer (Jun 22-Jul 22) You have played one too many games. Everyone is on to you and no one is going to sleep with you...probably ever again; at least not for the rest of the month. You have a million dollar smile, so use it to your advantage. You have an amazing opportunity coming your way.

Leo (Jul 23-Aug 22) It's true...you DO have a stalker. Don't freak out, don't panic (they are behind you right now). Maybe you should stop wearing pants that show off half your tush. Practice the word "NO". It will greatly work to your advantage.

Virgo (Aug 23-Sept 22) You are going to have the most orgasmic weekend of your life. Pay attention to the cutie thats been capturing your attention lately. You'll be amazed.

Haunted Halloween Hall



LSC-AMS & NWA

Talent Show Auditions
Sunday October 22 10:00 a.m until 2:00 p.m.
Alexander Twilight Theater
The Talent Show will be held on November 11 at 7:00 p.m.
Questions should be directed to Richard Maliawco Jr.
Public
Relations Director.

The Critic is looking for people to fill the following positions:
Reporters
Photographers
Advertisers
Layout Designers
Graphic Designers
Comic Strip Artist

The Critic Meets Thursdays from 6:00 p.m.-8:40 p.m. in Lac 409.
Contact Mary Wheeler at mary.wheeler@lyndonstate.edu
or critic@lyndonstate.edu for more information.
information.

Messages from the mailroom

BY DEREK PALMIERI
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

"The mailroom is a friendly place so come ask questions, I can't fix a problem util I know what it is," said Harry Swett LSC's Mailroom Supervisor also known as Dean of the Mailroom. When in a conversation with the Critic, Swett wanted students and faculty members of LSC to remember this very important idea, "Students pay my salary and all of the other staff's wages as well, and they need to remember that without the students we would all be out of a job," Swett said.

Students play a big role in and around the mailroom. There are students that work behind the mailboxes sorting and sending letters and packages. There is also the general population of students at the school that check their mailboxes in hope of receiving a letter or a package from the folks back home.

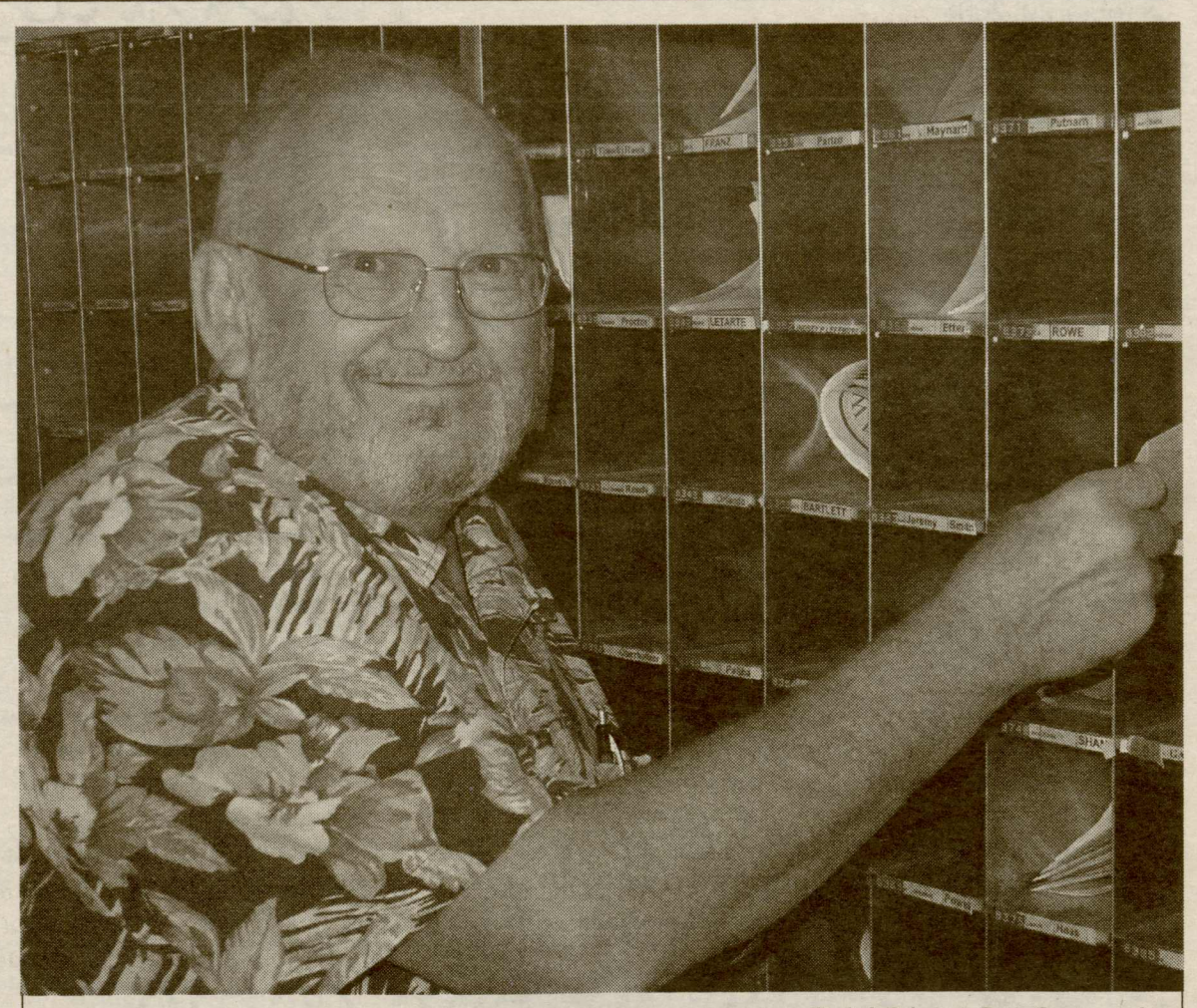
However, most students are not aware of the fact that the mailroom offers a four year degree in responsibility and life skills, Swett said. "In school you are set with a lot of responsibilities; some are larger then others but they all are there to teach you how to be reliant of yourself," said Swett. The mailroom is living up to that statement of teaching responsibility adding that degrees are only so good if you don't have the life skills. "The first mailbox key you are given is free and the first thing you need to know is your number since the numbers on the key are not the numbers to you box. If you lose the key its $5 for a replacement and that is all part of the responsibility," Swett said.

The keys will stay with students as long as they are enrolled at LSC. This means the key is still your responsibility even over the summer and the few reasons you would turn it in are if you dropped out or if you graduated. "The beginning of the new school year, that's when we seem to replace the most keys, the ones that were lost over the summer," Swett said.

With this year's class of freshman being the second largest in the school's history and enrollment on the rise, the question cropped up; will there be enough mailboxes for the student? Swett had this to say, "Boxes will be there if they are needed and every student will always have a mailbox to go check. If the need for more boxes arises there are plans and procedures in place to have more boxes provided."

In this time of instant messaging and e-mail and the like the idea of hand writing on paper and placing an Elvis stamp on a envelope to communicate with someone is almost archaic, however Swett does not see it that way at all. In fact the amount of traffic that they are handling is quite alarming and since the mail keeps pouring in, here are some reminders for how you can make sure that your mail gets to you and is sent to where you want it to go.

1. When picking up a package come to the window during regular mailroom hours with you student ID and your claims slip for the package.
2. Make sure that all your incoming mail has your mailbox number on it. This will prevent delays in delivery.
3. Provide a forwarding address to the mailroom before the end of the school year to continue receiving mail.
4. Remember that if you have any questions come by the mail room and Harry Swett will be happy to give you an answer.



Derkek Palmieri, Critic Correspondent

DEAN OF THE MAILROOM HARRY SWETT FEELS THAT RESPONSIBILITIES BOTH LARGE AND SMALL ARE PART OF THE COLLEGE EXPERIENCE.

Get to know your graduation requirements

BY JESSICA MILLHISER
CRITIC STAFF

Graduation can be stressful. Make it easy on yourself by making sure these few things are done.

In order to graduate on time, you must start your preparations almost as soon as you arrive. Once you've picked a degree program to focus on, you must follow through your specific catalogue and take the appropriate classes at the appropriate times as recommended. It is highly important that a student knows their program in their proper catalogue.

As you progress through the years, be sure to keep in frequent touch with your advisor and let them know of any changes that may occur in your schedule or degree program.

If you are a new student as of this year, you will be required to take either a course or test in written expression, quantitative reasoning, information literacy, which needs to be done online in the library at specific times, and oral expression. Some of the classes you take will have these components imbedded into the course; otherwise a test is required.

A year before you are supposed to graduate, you must fill out two forms: a request to graduate form and a degree audit form. The request to graduate form can be found online or at the Student Service Center, and the degree audit form can be found on Student Web Services. You must go over each of these forms with your advisor and they must sign your degree audit.

Once you have filled these two forms out, they must be given to Evelyn Franz in the Registrars Office. Once she has these forms she will double check that everything is correct and make sure you keep on track throughout the next year. She will let you know if there are classes you should be taking to finish out your major and will let you know if your grades are dropping too low.

If you are graduating with a bachelor's degree, you must have accumulated 122 credits by the end of your senior year, you must maintain at least a 2.0 GPA and you must have a C- or better in all of the classes required for your major.

The graduation list is published on Blackboard and in paper form. Students should check it to verify that they are on the list with the correct degree showing. The list is updated monthly.

Lyndon Review!
Submission Guidelines

Send in your poems, essays, and short stories. Attach a document saved in rich text format to an e-mail.

Send the e-mail to **joshua.gervais@lyndonstate.edu**.

Make sure you put "Lyndon Review" in your subject line.

All art/writing must include your name, the genre you're writing in (is it a poem, an essay or a short story?) and some way to contact you.

If you have some artwork you would like to submit, put it in a folder and place it in Chandler Gilman's door box (Vail 466).

LSC goes NCAA

BY JAKE MARDIN
CRITC CORRESPONDENT

LSC became a provisional member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association on Sept. 1.

This marks the first of four years LSC will be a provisional member before joining Division III full time. LSC was previously a member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.

While there will be some financial benefits to becoming a member of the NCAA, Athletic Director Christopher Ummer is more concerned about the stability that the NCAA will offer. "Stability is more important as well as being in a conference," Ummer said. Right now, LSC will have to follow some, but not all, rules and regulations of the NCAA. After each year, the college will have to follow more rules until they reach the fourth year of provisional membership, when they will need to follow all regulations.One benefit of joining the NCAA is a lighter traveling schedule. Last year, the teams did a large amount of traveling, including trips to the University of Maine at Presque Isle, in the northern part of the state. From now on, the teams will be able to enjoy playing closer to home. Some colleges that are members of NCAA Division III in Vermont are Castleton State College, Johnson State College, and Norwich University.NCAA will also have more lenient rules for freshmen than NAIA. Eligibility requirements were stricter under the NAIA. However, LSC will still not be able to offer athletic scholarships to new students. Only Division I and II teams have that privilege. For postseason opportunities, LSC also became a member of the United States Collegiate Athletic Association (USCAA). When an LSC team has a good season, that team will then have the opportunity to play in the USCAA playoffs.

New lacrosse team comes to LSC at varsity level

BY ANDREW KOCH
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

Two weeks ago, Athletic Director Chris Ummer announced in a campus-wide e-mail that Tim Tierney, who was the head lacrosse coach at St. Johnsbury Academy, as well as a former star in the sport at the University of Wisconsin, had been hired as head coach when the team starts playing in the spring of 2008.

Lacrosse is a sport that has dramatically exploded in popularity across America over the last ten years. Contrary to popular belief, it is also "Canada's Game," according to the Canadian Lacrosse Association.

According to US Lacrosse, the governing body of the sport in this country, lacrosse is the oldest sport in North America, originating with Native American tribes playing some form of the sport in what is now the U.S. and southern Canada. Now, this increasingly popular sport is officially coming to LSC, with the announcement coming this past spring.

"I fell in love with [lacrosse] when I was on a trip to Maryland. I started a lacrosse club in high school. I love the speed of the game; I love how it's multi-dimensional," says Tierney, the director of Kingdom Trails in East Burke, about how he got into the sport. Tierney comes in with plenty of coaching experience in the Northeast Kingdom, having been the head soccer coach at Lyndon Institute and head lacrosse coach at St. Johnsbury Academy. He said that his players at the Academy all loved the sport, regardless of whether or not they had the necessary skills for playing.

"I tried to teach them to simplify the game and not be fancy," Tierney said about what he tried to teach his players. He said that some of them would try to make the game harder than it actually is. Under his leadership, he helped guide the Hilltoppers to their first ever state lacrosse playoff appearance.

Tierney said that like everywhere else in the U.S., lacrosse here in Vermont is growing in popularity. "I think people are going to underestimate us as a team. I hope that they play the game right, and if we do that, we can create a tradition here. I hope some students will come here for lacrosse. I think we have the tools to succeed."

With the word about lacrosse already out around campus, Coach Tierney will be here next month to recruit potential players.

Hockey coach looks to join NCAA

BY ANDREW KOCH
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

Hockey coach Jonathan Davis is in favor of making hockey a varsity sport at LSC

"We'd get very good publicity," Davis said. "We'd get more inquiries from students interested in coming to Lyndon State. It would be a tremendous boost to our arena and to the community once the needed improvements are made."

Davis also said that if the hockey club became a varsity team, it would benefit graduating high school players throughout New England.

"There aren't enough Division III schools in New England for graduating high school senior hockey players," Davis said. He went on to say that there are still benefits to remaining a club team.

"We'd be more competitive," junior defenseman Michael St. Laurent said.

"More athletes of various abilities, whether they have advanced skills or beginner skills, will have a chance to play on a club team," Davis said. "Hockey still serves as entertainment for the students."

"Obviously it would be cheaper. We wouldn't have to do as much recruiting," St. Laurent said about remaining as a club team.

"I'd love to see us go NCAA, although I'm happy with the way it is. The current team would like to see the club go varsity, but they're satisfied with the way it is," Davis said.

St. Laurent said that hockey could become a varsity sport here at LSC if the team had the resources. He said that resources and finances would be the biggest obstacles for LSC Hockey to go varsity.

All of this comes amidst the administration's decision to put the rugby team under the supervision of the Athletic Department, in order to both hire a coach and ensure good behavior in the future from the players. Hockey, also a very popular club sport on campus, has been very much interested in becoming a varsity sport and would have the full support of its alumni if it were to do so, Davis said.

Lyndon State Hockey's 2006-2007 campaign begins on October 22 at Dartmouth College. The team's home opener will be October 27 against Connecticut College. For more information about the team, contact Jonathan Davis.

Cross country team sprints to victory

BY ANDREW KOCH
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

Sophomore Bobby Penney led the LSC men's cross country team to their first win of the season at the Saint Joseph's College Invitational in Standish, Maine on Saturday.

Penney, who was named USCAA Men's Cross Country Runner of the Week, finished the day on top of the leader board with a time of 28:54 to lead the team to a victory with a score of 20 points. Second place finisher St. Joseph's College finished with a score of 53.

The other LSC men finishing in the top five were Jacob Silverio, with a time of 29:14; Jonathan Harty, 29:44; and Jeremiah Powell, 29:55.

Powell, a freshman, continues to improve with each race and has impressed Coach Christopher Ummer.

"He could be our second or third man by the end of the season," Ummer said.

On the women's side, sophomore Lyndsay Calkins continued her success this season by winning the 5-kilometer race with a time of 20:11, beating the competition by 50 seconds.

"She cruised through [the race]," Ummer said.

Calkin's performance is the latest in a dominant season for her. In her first two races, she finished first and second.

Catherine Carver was the other top finisher for the women's team. The freshman finished the day with a time of 25:56.

St. Joseph's College finished the day on top of the women's division with a score of 39, followed by the University of Maine-Farmington, with a score of 42. LSC finished with an incomplete score.

THE CRITIC

Serving the student voice of the Northeast Kingdom

FREE

Lyndonville, Vermont | Friday, October 27, 2006 | Volume 53, Number 4

Campus-wide wireless internet coming to LSC?

By DEREK PALMIERI
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

Lyndon State students may soon be surfing the internet without having to touch an ethernet cord. Wireless internet may soon be on its way to LSC residence halls giving students the freedom found in many other schools around the country.

"Most of the library is wireless, I would say about 80 percent, and we have complete coverage in the Student Center. There is also access in the television studios, the theater, and partial coverage of the Rita Bole building and HAC," said Assistant Chief Technology Officer Mike Dente.

The overall goal of the continuing project is to provide another tool to the students of LSC.

"When the Student Center was remodeled the system was installed there because of the high numbers of students in the area. The same is true for the HAC lounge and now that locations of common use are covered, we also provide wireless in the Burke Mountain room. But providing to the students was the first point of the project," said Dente.

If there were one really notable difference between this system and others of its kind it would be the fact that anyone has access to the system.

"As of now we are trying to secure the system so that only LSC students, faculty, and staff can access the hot spots. The reason that this was not done sooner was because of the schools location there was very little concern about hijackers using the system," Dente added.

The reason that the system is now prearranging to be locked is in accordance with a Vermont State Collage's mandate and the deadlines for the new security features for users is May 15, 2007.

"There is work being done right now with the login system and it may be in place by as early as Christmas break," said Dente.

The login system will ask for you credentials and these will be the same as the ones you use to log into Blackboard and LSC e-mail accounts.

As far as bringing the wireless system to the residence halls there are a few obstacles that Dente and his IT crew will need to find a way around before that plan could become a reality.

"The largest problem that we would run into, as with all the systems installed, is the construction of the buildings. Concrete and cement are more difficult to send signals though and are more difficult for installation of the system," said Dente.

The other major problem is the cost of the system. It appears that the only way the residence halls will receive wireless internet is if a grant were to be awarded to the school to assist the IT department in purchasing the systems.

Joshua Damaso, Critic Staff

Audrey Perry, a junior and Early Childhood Education major at Lyndon State College, gets ready to use the wireless internet service in the school's library on Thursday.

HALLOWEEN SPECIAL

Mysteries of Lyndon State College's ghosts

By ROBERT RUMRILL
CRITIC STAFF

For years rumors have traveled around LSC about spooky events that have taken place on campus. Whether it's strange deaths or sightings of ghosts, the college seems to have a dark side that few really know about.

One of the most inexhaustible myths has to do with Emma Vail, the wife of Theodore N. Vail, who died in the winter of 1905 while her husband was away on business. Since her death, ghostly sightings and paranormal activites have been reported all over campus.

One year, during a play rehearsal in the early 1970s, a student witnessed an elderly woman step onto the stage, look around, then walk off. Later she asked other crew members about the woman; nobody else seemed to have seen her.

An incident that also took place in the theater happened when a ventriloquist was performing. Rumor has it a glass of water that was on the stage was knocked over and rolled to the edge of the stage. Instead of falling off and crashing to the floor, the glass mysteriously stood upright once again.

Other stories circulate about a mysterious wheelchair that is said to be haunted. Once after a production, the chair was seen rocking back and forth by itself. Another incident took place late one night when two security officers found the chair alone in one of the hallways. After returning the chair to its rightful home inside of a storage room they continued their rounds. Later that evening, they returned and found the chair had once again managed to make its way back to the hallway.

A common misconception about the chair is that it was owned by Emma, when in fact it was purchased as a prop for a play.

While rumors have been spread across campus about suicides, only one such incident has taken place on campus; during in the late 60s a woman who was a staff member at LSC committed suicide in the cemetery next to Lyndon Institute.

While some parts of LSC history are baffling, every good story has been stretched over time. Unsure of which have and which have not, it's clear that there's nothing wrong with a little mystery in a world where people are so sure of everything.

Gas prices: Relief for students

By JOSHUA DAMASO
CRITIC STAFF

With a gallon of gas starting to cost roughly the same price as a gallon of milk rather than a gallon of paint, many LSC students are finding themselves with a little bit of extra money in their pockets. Students are finding that with gas costs dropping, their usually-already-thin wallets are now finally starting to feel a little snugger in their pockets.

"For a while I was feeling a pinch," said LSC sophomore Lindsay Mitchell. "I drive a lot for my job, [and] I get money for the mileage, but not a lot."

While some students felt the cost pinch, traveling to and from work, others were feeling more strapped for cash just trying to make trips home to visit family and friends.

"I've been only going home on long weekends or holidays," said one LSC junior who asked to remain anonymous. "I couldn't do it more because of the gas prices. Now, I went home last weekend and I will be next weekend as well."

"I'd spend about $50 [driving to home and back]," she continued, adding that she was at one point spending as much as $60 or $70 to drive both ways.

According to the Web site www.vermontgasprices.com, gas prices vary across the state, with 76 cents separating one state gas station from another. At press time, Simon's Gas in Berlin was at an unleaded regular price of $2.03 per gallon while a Gulf station in East Clarendon was reported to be at $2.79 for the same product.

In neighboring N.H., the lowest recorded price was $2.01 per gallon in Merrimack, N.H. Meanwhile, in Lincoln, N.H., the highest statewide price of $2.39 was recorded.

Some students didn't believe that the higher prices made much of a difference, saying the minimal amount of money saved on gas would likely be spent on something possibly less significant.

"When it comes down to it, at most, per week, you spend like $5 to $10 more [with higher prices]. What are you going to really buy with that?" said sophomore Justine Jones, an Arlington resident. "I honestly don't even notice [the change in prices]. It's a pain when I have to drive home because it's a two-and-a-half hour drive, but I only commute [to school] from West Burke."

Some students have found that higher gas prices have led to major decision making in order to save money, and with prices lowering, extra savings can now be made.

"My first semester here, in fall 2004, I commuted from Derby," said junior Megan Monette. "I spent $90 per week in gas. So I moved [to Lyndonville]. Now I can get through the week with $10 in gas."

LSC works to keep campus safe

By TABITHA FITZGERALD
CRITIC STAFF

The recent shootings and hostage situations on school campuses in different parts of the country prove that there is nowhere that is perfectly safe. This includes Lyndon Vermont. LSC is a relatively small college, but according to Deb Hale, LSC registrar, there are 1,403 students currently enrolled in classes. The important question is what is LSC doing to keep students safe?

Currently the college is working on new policies, trying to reinforce old policies and holding community forums to educate and inform the campus, George Hacking, LSC's Director of Public Safety said.

Hacking came to LSC after 27 years with the Vermont State Police. Most of the problems that Public Safety deals with pertain to lost or stolen items, ID issues, noise and parking complaints, Hacking said. But that doesn't mean that emergency issues are kept far from mind.

"We have an emergency evacuation procedure," Hacking said. All staff and faculty are sent reminder e-mails throughout the semester of the evacuation plan and their part in carrying it out, Hacking said.

Student Life is also well trained for emergency situations. "Student's and professional staff members of the department (Student Life) are trained on how to evacuate the building," Jonathan Davis, Director of Student Life said. "Each staff member participates n training sessions covering the procedures for evacuating the buildings, and procedures for other emergencies," he said. Emergency exit routes are also posted in each classroom.

LSC does not currently have a policy that deals with school shootings or hostage situations. "These kinds of policies are different at a college campus then they are at a high school because of campus size, number of buildings and the fact not all students are in classes at the same time," Hacking said.

Currently Hacking said he is collaborating with administration to daft up a policy that addresses the shooting and hostage dangers as well as other acts of violence.

Violence on campus is not the only thing that the college is addressing. Nor is it the most common problem. According to Hacking most complaints consist of smoking outside of the designated areas, theft, noise and drinking.

"Almost every complaint that comes in is alcohol related," he said. While this is a problem everywhere, Hacking said he advises students to know the ramifications for drinking under age or proving alcohol to minors.

Hacking said that he thinks the biggest safety problem on campus is education. He has heard concerns about walking on campus after dark and date rape drugs. To educate the campus about safety issues, and to hear what the campus community has to say the collage is now conducting community forums.

Tabitha Fitzgerald, Photo Editor

George Hacking, LSC's Director of Public Safty, hope to educate the campus community and institue a few new policies to make campus safer.

Leo Sevigny, Assistant Dean of Student Life, heads the meetings that take place every Tuesday at 12:30pm in theater wing B. Hacking said that the first meeting was a success but that no one showed to the second.

"We are hoping to educate the public about safety," Hacking said. "Students, staff and faculty are encouraged to voice their opinions and concerns. The more voices and opinions, the more solutions we can come up with," he said.

LSC tries to deal with the majority of problems in house. There is a hearing procedure set up through student life to deal with both behavioral and criminal problems, Hacking said. Anytime a student violates the college code this is the procedure they go through.

This is not to say that the college is against police involvement, Hacking said. Anytime a student that has been victimized wants to press charges the police are called immediately. The college leaves it up to the victim whether or not to press charges. If the victim decides not to then the college will deal with it in house, Hacking said.

Some of the campuses emergency evacuation procedure can be found online or in the student handbook. Some of it is left out for safety purposes, Hacking said. All campus emergency contacts can be found on the website. The student handbook also contains information about emergency situation policies and the judicial proceedings. Currently the college is also working on a webpage for the college site where policies and procedures will be posted.

Alcohol helps educate Lyndon State students of risks

By JESSICA MILLHISER
CRITIC STAFF

DUI, driving under the influence, and DWI, driving while intoxicated, are both terms used to describe drunk driving. DUI is the more common term, especially when used in the court of law.

On Thursday night, October 26th, at 7:30pm, there was a "Check-point DUI" experiment in the Stevens Dining Hall. There were five students selected to begin drinking at 4:15pm to prepare for the upcoming event.

Each person drank a different type and amount of alcohol. Person one drank four Smirnoff Twisted's, person two drank two bottles of wine, person three drank six beers, person four drank a bottle of whisky and person five drank seven rum and cokes.

Each person would come out one at a time so that Vermont State Trooper, Walt Decker, could perform a routine DUI check on them.

First, Trooper Decker would approach the "vehicle", in this case a chair, and smell for alcohol, check their eye's to see if they were bloodshot or watery, and check their car to see if any bottles or cans were visible.

Then he asked them to step out of the car and walk away while maintaining eye contact with him. Decker then proceeded to do a bunch of dexterity exercises to determine their driving capability.

For the first exercise, he pulled out a pen and held it in front of them. He asked them if they could see the end of the pen and if they couldn't, he would move it closer until they could. Then he asked them to follow the pen from side to side with their eyes only. If they were drunk, their eyes would move in a jerky, non-smooth fashion; which all of their eyes did. Then, Decker would hold the pen on one side and watch to see if their eyes stayed still or moved back and forth, all of their eyes moved.

Secondly, Decker asked them to lift their foot six inches off of the ground, keep their hands at their side and count to 15, using 1000's. Many of them swayed, put their hands out for balance, or lowered their foot while doing this exercise; all of these are symptoms of being drunk.

Thirdly, Decker asked them to walk nine steps with a heel-to-toe walk and then turn around and come back as instructed, all the while counting each step outloud. Most of the participants did all right with this exercise, though some swayed and didn't always keep heel-to-toe.

Next, they were all asked to count backwards from 86 to 74. All of the participants had problems with this exercise, either skipping a number or forgetting where to stop and going down too far.

Then Decker would have them do the alphabet from letters I to R. Some did all right with this, though some went past R.

Lastly, Decker would have them do a breathalyzer test to see what they would blow. He stated before giving it to them that the number that came up would not be permissible in court and that it was simply used to give the officer a rough idea.

Person one blew a .083. Person two blew a .078. Person three blew a .092. Person four blew a .122. And person five blew a .135. Anyone who blew above a .08 was then handcuffed and brought to jail.

All of the students willingly participated in this event and were drinking under controlled circumstances with a sober buddy at their side.

Vermont DUI punishment includes fines, jail time, loss of driving privileges, community service, vehicle immobilization or forfeiture, and mandatory alcohol educational courses,

To the Editor

It can be understood that some students might feel that the Student Government Association is a group of people who are not connected to the college as much as they would like. We would like to change these feelings so that we are able to serve every student on campus the best that we can. It is our hope to provide every student with information and have input from them so that informed decisions can be made when it comes to topics regarding the campus.

To begin with, we would like to provide the student body with some basic information about the organization. There are two branches of the SGA, each has a different and equally important role in the organization.

The SGA House consists of a representative from each of the active clubs on campus. Currently there are 24 members who serve in this capacity. House members are elected to serve in this position by the members of the club that they represent. The club chooses the person that they feel will best represent the club's voice at the meetings.

The House members' main responsibility is to speak on behalf of the club. At some meetings they will be required to state why they would like certain things, including money for trips and activities. When other clubs question the request it is not a personal attack on the individual it is the way that balance is obtained so that each club has an equal opportunity to fulfill their goals.

The SGA Senate is made up of students elected by the student body, at the start of each year there are elections for these seats. There are two ways that a student can be elected into this seat. The first is if they would like to run, that student must complete a petition of 50 LSC student signatures. The reason for this petition is to show that at least 50 students feel that person- should run.

Once this is complete that name will appear on the ballot. The second way that a student could be elected is through the write in portion of the ballot. This line is here for students who did not complete a ballot and decided they would like to run after that due date or if other students feel that a certain person on campus would make a good senator then they will put that person's name there. Either way, to be elected a student must have the majority of votes and also must accept the position once notified. Senators will serve as the voice of every student on campus. Some ways that they do this are by sitting on Faculty Committees as a student voting member, discuss student issues at meetings, and perform various other responsibilities each year.

At any time during the year students may attend a SGA House or Senate meeting to observe what happens or talk about an issue that they may have. House meets at 8:30pm every other Wednesday and Senate meets 8:15 every Thursday in T202.

Senators are also required to be in the SGA Office in the student center, we encourage you to stop by and find out about current issues or add an item to our agenda. We hope that this has helped to better inform the student body about the SGA, we are here to serve you and we value every student's opinion. Anyone interested in more information or becoming involved please contact us.

SGA President, Lars Christenson, Vice President, Chris Ferguson, Treasurer, Steve Merrill and Senate Members, Michael Dana, Hayley LaPoint, Justin Sinkevich, Tim Lavigne.

To the Editor

In the september ninth edition there was an artical on Terrant, the wealthy, self financing canidate for Senate, but nothing on his opponent Bernie Sanders whom Terrant is running a smear campaign against. I want to help this paper be fair by saying a few words about Bernie. Bernie Sanders, an independent representative that is very easily accesable and listens to the people who call him. My mother who was once Cordinator of the Darling Inn Senior Meal Site, here in Lyndonville, called him whenever the seniors there had questions that needed to be answered, like questions about medicare. He cares about the average Vermonters needs. He cares about the needs of young adults also. He has a facebook group that gets the younger people involved in politics. Those who want to know what he stands for need to speak with him. Those with issues with his voting record should look at how the bills were worded and what the true goal of these bills were and should ask Bernie why he voted for or against certain bills. There has to be a reason he voted against them. Bernie is not a monster or a nut. There were others who voted against the bills too. We all must ask ourselves why before we condem his votes.

Ann-Marie Reed

LSC retreat lacked students

By MARY WHEELER
Editor

The annual campus wide retreat was held last friday. While the purpose of the event was to begin developing the strategic plan for the centennial celebration of the college, the audience was 99 perent faculty and staff and 1 percent students. That student was me.

Well okay, I wasn't the only student. There was a class that stayed for the first hour of the retreat, but I was the only student who stayed for the majority of the event and wasn't forced to go.

Not that this makes me special or anything. Truthfully, I forgot there even was a retreat that day and wasn't planning on attending myself. The only way I remembered was the commotion going on in the gym and any event that gave out orange juice and muffins was worth checking out.

I must admit that it was rather intimidating being the only student participant. It's hard to be completely honest in front of the entire administration. It was even harder knowing that many of those faculty participants were teachers I once had.

Murray, the guest speaker, kept asking me my views on the future of the college. "What did I think of this, and what did I think of that?" There were some things that I just didn't have an opinion on, and being put on the spot was somewhat daunting. I didn't want to come across as an idiot, so my comments were rather ordinary. I appreciated his efforts to get me involved, but I am only one student, with my own opinions and views that could be completely different from another. Hearing other students' perspectives on their experiences at Lyndon would have been more beneficial.

Maybe the thought of waking up at 8:30 on a Friday morning didn't appeal to many students. Maybe the idea of a college retreat reminded students of class or perhaps some were in class. Or maybe the event wasn't advertised enough to the student body.

It's important for students to know about such events and attend them. I know, they may not be as exciting as going snowboarding or hanging out with friends, but while you are here this is your school and your voice can make a difference.

Winter is coming

By KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
Editor

They say that if you don't like the weather in Vermont, wait five minutes. Well, when the ground is covered in three feet of snow and my beard has turned blue from the cold, I stop liking the weather in Vermont.

Five minutes my butt, more like eight months.

I don't like winter. I'm too clumsy to ski, too poor to afford a snow-machine, and I can't skate to save my life. One step on the ice and I'm down, bleeding.

I prefer the greens of the other seasons to the white, soul-crushing bleakness of winter. Getting stuck in a three-foot deep mud rut is manlier than sliding off the road into a snow bank.

The only good thing about winter is that it scares off the flatlanders. They come up here with visions of log cabins and horse drawn sleighs; they leave with nightmares of snowdrifts and their loved ones covered in freezing rain.

There's another saying that comes to mind; to each his own.

Putting if off for health

By: JOSHUA JAMES GERVAIS
Editorial Editor

I was going to write an editorial—instead I watched a television show on YouTube. That's the problem with computers: they're good for typing things, but they're far better at wasting time. Luckily, my computer didn't come with a Solitaire program, or I wouldn't get anything done at all. Most students feel the same way from time to time.

Putting things off has gotten a bad rep, which isn't wholly undeserved; even procrastination has its benefits. College can be a stressful time with tests, papers, and projects on top of social commitments and the day-to-day business of living. An overaggressive work schedule is going to do just as much damage as a lax one—stress builds up and even the most minor setbacks become infuriating. Sometimes, the best thing a person can do is put the books down and take a rest.

Simple things, like taking a 5 minute break for every hour of study, or going to bed early before a test instead of having a late night cram session, can do a lot for a person's performance. They give the mind time to rest and process the information at hand. Cramming might help for a test, but it does nothing for your long term retention—and information a person doesn't retain isn't very useful.

Paper writing is similar. Putting a paper away for a couple days after writing them makes it easier to see what actually is in the paper instead of what was supposed to be in the paper. Letting a friend look the paper over or bringing it to the Writing Center can also find these problems.

Too much work without rest is bad for a person, and too much procrastination is just as bad. The key is to find a balance between the two.

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Vermont band looks to spread wealth of jazz

BY MARY WHEELER
EDITOR

Every up-in-coming band has a story to tell and Alex Toth and the Lazy Birds are no exception. A hip and eclectic jazz band originating from Burlington Vermont, the members consist of Peter Krag, Keys, Kalmia Traver, alto sax and vocals, Geoff Kim, guitar, Danny Ryan, drums, Alex Toth, trumpet, and Russell Flynn, upright bass.

The group has created a sound all their own on their first album titled "Vermont Sky Session and the Birds and the sky and all that" which was released in October.

"Vermont Sky Session and the Birds and the sky and all that" was recorded in January 2006 at Vermont Sky Digital Audio. The group has been expanding in a new direction, moving away from straight jazz to a sound that has a more danceable and modern vibe to it.

The group started out of a weekly jazz jam session opened to musicians who were trying to pursue jazz. The sessions were held at the arts and culture hub of Burlington at Radiobean, a cafe/bar on Friday nights. The name of the group came from a John Coltrane song *Lazybird* from the album "Blue Trane," which was an inspirational album for the group.

According to the group, putting together their first album was a pretty intense process and took a lot of work. Beyond recording there was licensing, album art, promotion, and duplication. After the initial recording, the group had to mix, master, edit and do vocal work. The group agreed that *Autumn Sketch*, a tune Toth wrote for the Jazz Fest in Burlington was a powerful piece. They also agreed that *On Missing*, written by Traver was another simple yet beautiful piece.

"The process of making this album has been a unique one for me because it's all original material and it's a full length album," Toth said. "Basically we went out to Vermont Sky Digital Audio about 3 or 4 times for 6 hours each times and ran takes of our tunes live."

The groups other inspirations include Miles Davis, John Coltrane, Freddie Hubbard, Wayne Shorter, Jimi Hendrix, Led Zeppelin, and James Brown.

"Some post-modern and minimalist composers really interest me. Everyone in the group brings their own vibes which includes Latin influences," Traver said.

On the Vermont music scene, the group feels that Vermont definitely has a culture behind it and a strong appreciation for jazz music.

"There are some good jazz players in Vermont and Burlington has a lot going on because of the University of Vermont," Toth said.

The group recently finished up their east coast tour in September and will be heading out to the west coast in October. The group feels it will be a great opportunity with a lot of great music. They feel confident that the experience will further influence The Lazybirds as a whole.

For the future of Alex Toth and the Lazy Birds, the group would like to explore new sounds and compositions. They would like to expand their range which would include indie-rock/jazz possibilities as well as hip-hop and reggae. They would also like to expand where they play which would include some festivals in Europe or have a national tour.

Editors Note: This article was originally published with JIVE Magazine at their online website.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ALEX TOTH ABD THE LAZY BIRDS

ALEX TOTH AND THE LAZY BIRDS RELAX AFTER A JAZZ SESSION IN EARLY OCTOBER.

Tales from the old stone house

BY STACEY MAYNARD
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

The Old Stone House Museum has something for everyone to learn and pass on.

"I want to facilitate the passing on of traditional skills — a living museum," Peggy Day Gibson said. Gibson is the education program coordinator of the Old Stone House Museum, located in Brownington.

"I want to keep the traditional crafts alive so they will not get lost," Gibson said. "I also like to have the old meeting with the young, teaching values through the generations."

Gibson coordinates volunteers to go into the schools and teach traditional skills such as rope making.

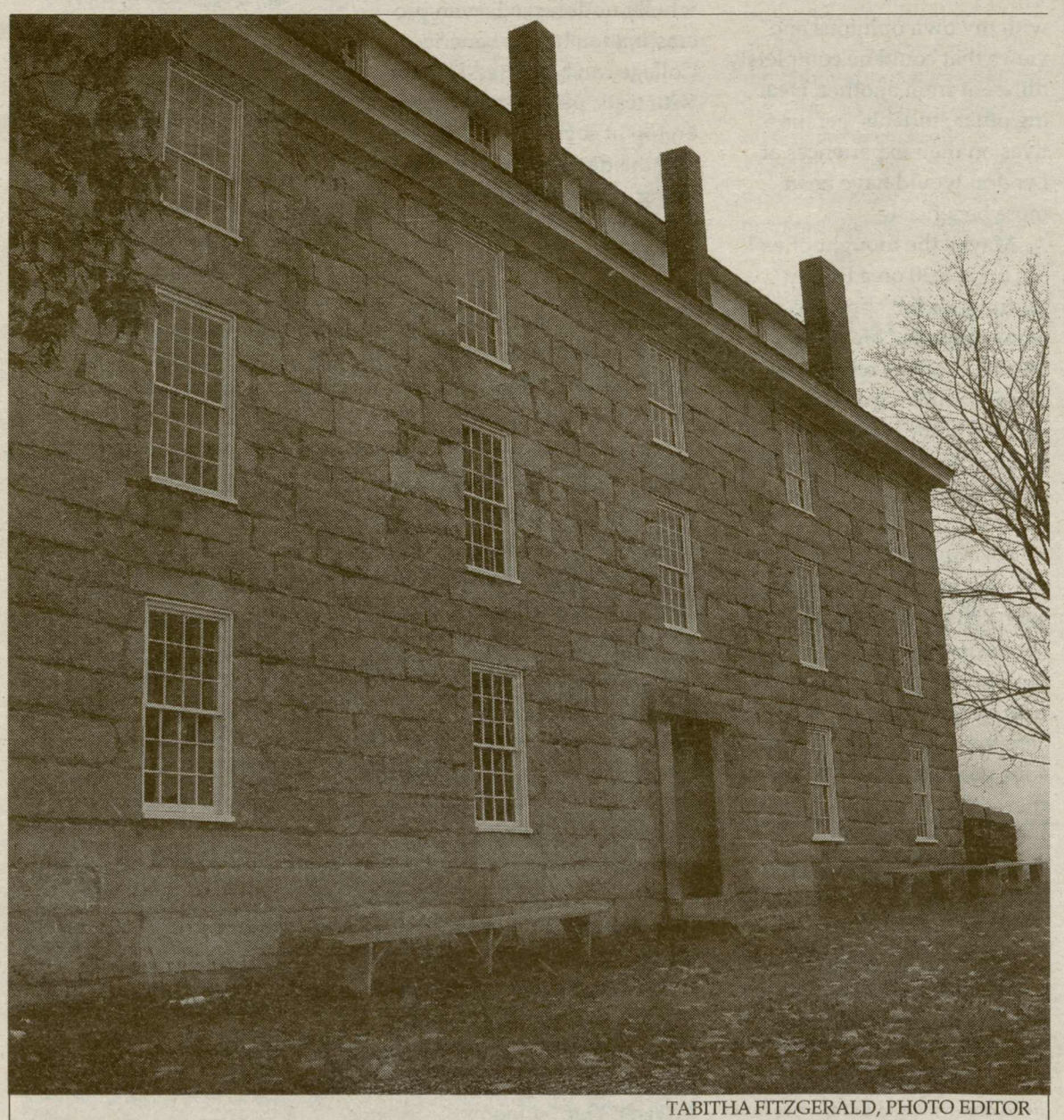
Every weekend, at the museum, different groups are preserving different crafts of some kind. The museum has people who come once a month to teach in such areas as the spinning, knitting, basket making, rug braiding, and quilting.

The museum also has workshops in the spring, summer, and fall to teach new crafts. The Old Stone House Museum has had rug hooking, wool dyeing, lace making and felting. The museum also hosts the Fall Harvest day and Spring Field day which is a school field trip for third to sixth graders; approximately 150 -200 kids visit the museum on these days.

"We need young people with energy and strength," Gibson said. "The tour guides are getting too old to climb three flights of stairs and put up the tents. We train anyone willing to volunteer at the museum."

The museum also needs volunteers who would be willing to put up tents and move tables for the different events the museum sponsors. They also need volunteers for the summer camp.

The third week in June they have a Liar's Contest where people volunteer to tell tall tales, along with a display of gas and steam engines. People get to tour the museum and see the working steam engines.



TABITHA FITZGERALD, PHOTO EDITOR

THE OLD STONE HOUSE CONTINUES TO ITS TRADITION OF EDUCATION THROUGH TOURS, CAMPS, AND TRADITIONAL CRAFT CLASSES.

Tabitha Fitzgerald, Photo Editor

SUE CUMMINGS, AN LSC JUNIOR, SMILES FOR A PHOTO IN THE WRITING CENTER.

Non-traditional within the LSC community

BY JESSICA MILLHISER
CRITIC STAFF

Lyndon State College has a large population of non-traditional students. What are non-traditional students you may ask; anyone over the age of 24, who is married, has children or commutes to school.

A typical college student is aged 18-23 and more than likely either lives on campus, or lives off campus in close range to the school. They also tend to be involved in extra curricular activities such as sports or clubs and spend much of their free time hanging out with friends.

How is the experience of a non-traditional student different? Sue Cummings, a non-traditional student fitting all of the criteria above, talked about her experience here at LSC. Cummings said that her experience here has been an "enlightening one."

After high school, she took a year off, got married and had a son. She was never able to find the time to fit in a college schedule during those hectic years. Later, after a life altering experience, she found herself at LSC.

Cummings came to LSC without any expectations; "If you have expectations you may get disappointed," Cummings said. Cummings stated that she doesn't feel out of place; "I feel like I do fit in here." Cummings also mentioned that she feels like traditional students "seem to be really receptive to non-traditional students."

Though Cummings does feel like she missed out on a traditional college experience, she feels like she is better prepared at this point in her life. "I didn't feel intellectually ready right out of high school," Cummings said.

Cummings is 49 years old and is a second semester junior, on track to graduate in December 2007.

Lyndon's gambit

By JOHN CHETWYND
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

The Chess Club wants to draw students out of their residence halls by offering to do more than just play chess.

"The Chess Club plans to bring board games and video games in the spring semester, but their main focus will still be chess," club President Scott Jaeger said.

The Chess Club also will be hosting a game night in the dining hall in November. Next year the Chess Club members plan to hold a big game night in the gym, featuring giant monopoly.

The group plans to bring video games like Halo for the Xbox.

"According to the Xbox gamers in the club, Halo is one of the more popular games to play," Jaeger said. There was some talk in the group about going out and buying either the new Playstation 3 or the Wii from Nintendo.

The Chess Club consists of 30 members and meets Mondays at 7:30, Tuesdays, and Thursdays at 8 in Lac 342. If you have any question about anything the Chess Club is doing you can e-mail Wendy Lania the club House representative at wendy.lania@lyndonstate.edu.

Watt's up with LSC's radio station WWLR

By CALEB BYERLY
CRITIC STAFF

The LSC radio station, WWLR the Impulse 91.5 FM, has purchased and installed numerous components in an effort to update the station and improve the quality and distance of the station's signal.

General Manager of WWLR Jeremy Lacey, along with the Directors of WWLR, has helped raise over $10,000 in underwriting contracts with area businesses in order to purchase the new equipment.

One of the major upgrades has been a new 300 Watt FM exciter that powers the transmitter, replacing the old 40 watt exciter. As a result of these upgrades, WWLR has become one of the largest radio stations in the Northeast Kingdom, in terms of the number of listeners.

"We purchased a 3 phase adapter and some other components which has increased the clarity of our signal and vastly expanded our broadcast radius to the largest it has ever been," Lacey said.

In addition to a clear signal and wider broadcast range, WWLR may soon be available to internet users. The recent purchase of a state-of-the-art server will allow internet users to listen to WWLR online from the station's webpage, which will be operational within a few weeks.

All available DJ slots have been filled, either by experienced staff, faculty, or trained first-year students. These DJ's bring a wide variety of music to the listeners of WWLR, with genres ranging from classical to hip-hop, and from heavy metal to "golden oldies".

"This is an astounding feat for a non-profit college radio station to have accomplished, and every member of WWLR and the greater LSC community should be very proud of WWLR's progress and success," Lacey said.

President Moore instates a new Sustainability Committee

By JESSICA MILLHISER
CRITIC STAFF

A new Sustainability Committee has been appointed by LSC President Carol Moore to focus on different environmental aspects around campus. This committee has been developed to "promote recycling, energy conservation and for an educational component, to raise campus awareness of these issues," Wayne Hamilton, Dean of Administration and Chair of the Committee said.

Other members of the group include, Bob Whittaker, James Gallagher, Janet Bennion, Deborah Coffin, Kelly Rossiter, Brandon Buckley, David Wood, Michael Dana, Kurt Heinchon, and Justin Sinkevich.

The Committee is hoping to collaborate with more student-run groups such as Students for Global Change, Assist, and the NSC. "We're trying to get more student involvement in these projects," Hamilton said.

For the committee's first project, they are competing against other colleges around Vermont in the Change a Light Bulb Campaign. To participate in this program, you have to "Bring a light bulb from your dorm room and give it to the committee. Then we'll give you an energy-efficient one back," Kelly Rossiter said. Only those who live on campus are allowed to participate.

These new energy-efficient light bulbs last up to 8 times longer than a regular light bulb; they save a lot of electricity and, as a result, also save a lot of money.

The Sustainability Committee plans for the long term as well as what they can do in the short term. "Planning for long term involves thinking about processes; where do things come from, how do we use them while we have them, and then where do they go when we're done with them," said Rossiter.

A few of the other projects being worked on involve Aramark. Aramark has sponsored their own sustainability project as of last week in an effort to purchase more local food products. "They are working with local suppliers to identify more local food sources," said Hamilton.

Aramark has also recently started selling their leftover grease and oil to a man who will buy it, refine it, and turn it into usable fuel; whereas before, they were paying someone to haul it away.

A final project that has only recently been talked about is the issue of compost. "The compost must be compiled outside, but we need a safe place to put it where animals won't get into it," said Hamilton. This idea is not definite, but it's being investigated, though they are hopeful to find something.

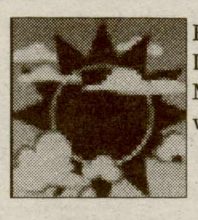
Another issue that Hamilton hopes to tackle is to reduce the number of cars being driven to school each day. It would save fuel, money, parking space and it would avoid having to pave more space around the school.

This new committee is comprised of many people, who are very energetic, and who have the ability and drive to create change; with their help, our college campus should become environmentally friendly.

Fun Page

LSC Northeast Kingdom Forecast
Student Meteorologist Andrew Little

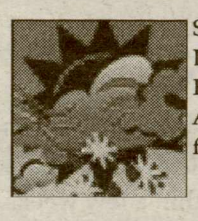
A week ridge of high pressure moving in on Friday will allow us to see the sun mixed with some clouds. However, a storm system developing over the Texas panhandle will interact with a developing low pressure system in the north Great Lakes bring a mixed bag of rain and snow showers. Also, be prepared as strong winds on Saturday and Sunday could produce power outages for the northeast kingdom.



Friday Morning (Oct 27, 2006)
Low: 25-30 F
Mostly cloudy then becoming cloudy with winds from the northweast 5-10 mph.

Friday Evening (Oct 27, 2006)
High: 39-44 F
Mostly sunny with winds from the northwest becoming south 5-10 mph.

Saturday (Oct 28, 2006)
Low: 27-32 F
High: 37-42 F
Snow flurries in the morning then changing to rain by afternoon. Winds from the south east 10-15 mph be coming east 15-20 mph with gusts up to 33 mph in some areas.



Sunday (Oct 29, 2006)
Low: 27-32 F
High: 34-38 F
A chance of snow showers mixed with rain. Wind from the southwest 15-20 mph.

For the most up-to-date weather reports at: *apollo.lsc.vsc.edu/forecast*

Horoscopes

Libra (Sept 23-Oct 22) Someone you often make out with while intoxicated is on your mind. Though you may not know their name, you have more in common than you think. A bottle of wine, some soft rock and a roaring fire are your best bets to a sure thing.

Scorpio (Oct 23-Nov 21) The past has come back to bite you in the ass. Something you may regret is on weighing you down but it's time to let it go. Creativity is the key to wooing your crush.

Sagittarius (Nov 22-Dec 21) This winter is going to be long and cold if you keep acting like a big, mean jerk. Stop doing yucky things to your roomates sheets too, they will catch you and pee on your toothbrush (consider yourself warned).

Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 19) Everyone is staring at you this week because you are HOT. The way you carry yourself makes people want to jump your bones at first sight. Be careful what you wish for because it is starting to come true. And you suck at dancing, you might want to work on that.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 18) You don't just crush a lot, you ARE a player. It's time you evaluate your morals and start forming lasting relationships. Everyone knows your status so work on that or the only thing your going to be macking are the golden arches.

Pisces (Feb 19-Mar 20) You have become clingy and somewhat pathetic. Though it may be painful, "get out of my life" means business. Pack up, move on and don't look back. Take up a new hobbie this week that is not destructive to your health; chain smoking and pole dancing aren't doing much for you.

Aries (Mar 21-Apr 19) Bursting into spontaneous fits and/or dance parties is no longer acceptable. You're damn cute and you know it, but there is no need to tell everyone about it.

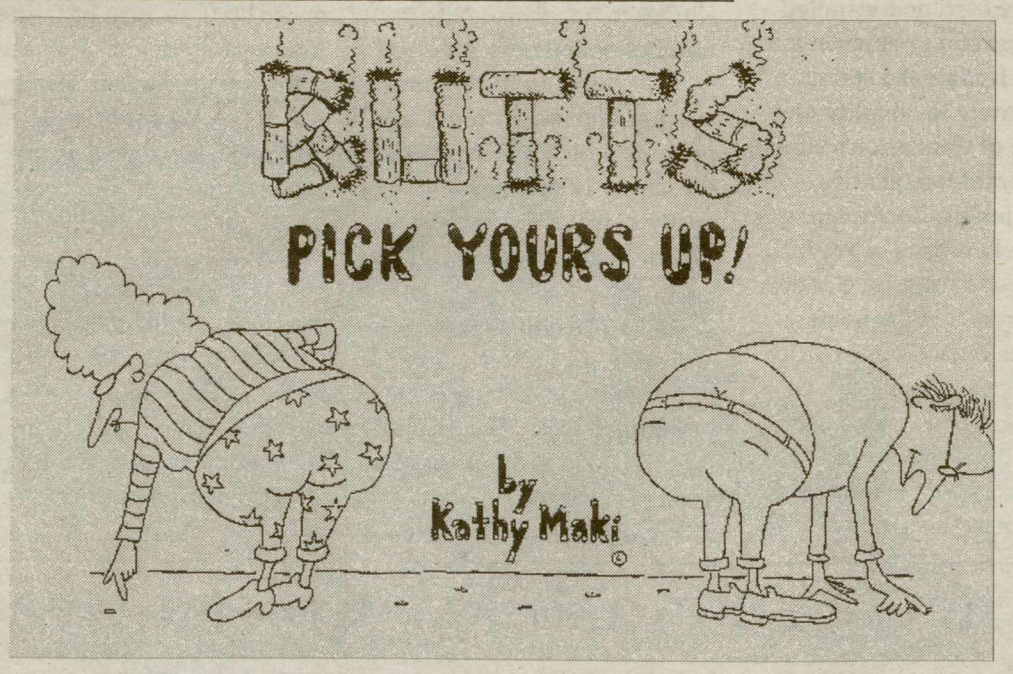
Taurus (Apr 20-May 20) You need a dime that's top of the line. Get out there and find the shorty that makes your toes curl. If you were thinking about some sort of a new look this week go for it. The stars show you can't go wrong.

Gemini (May 21-Jun 21) Halloween lets you exploit your inner self. Go with whips, chains or whatever else you have in mind. However, anything involving the deer you hunted last week is out of the question. You have a sexy lower-back; wear something that emphasizes that.

Cancer (Jun 22-Jul 22) You are a makeout bandit this week. Everyone is dying to know your name, but play it cool. People are more apt to swoon over you if you play up your level of mystery. On that note, stop ironing your socks...it's weird.

Leo (Jul 23-Aug 22) So you've made a fool of yourself, yet again. There's not much you can do now. It just so happens that the love of your life has been staring you in the face all along. They will love you no matter how many party fouls you make, so don't let them go.

Virgo (Aug 23-Sept 22) You are finally going to get laid! Your weekend will be anything but ordinary. Sit back, relax and pretend like you know what you're doing. You should really get over practicing making out on your hand; that is so 6th grade.



Free Smoking Cessation Classes
for
LSC Student, Faculty, and Staff

Meeting Dates
Tuesday, October 31
Tuesday, November 7
Tuesday, November 28

All Classses 4:00-6:00 in LAC 334

The Critic is looking for people to fill the following positions:
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Photographers
Advertisers
Layout Designers
Graphic Designers
Comic Strip Artist

The Critic Meets Thursdays from 6:00 p.m.-8:40 p.m. in Lac 409.
Contact Mary Wheeler at mary.wheeler@lyndonstate.edu or critic@lyndonstate.edu for more information.
information.

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Send in your poems, essays, and short stories.
Attach a document saved in rich text format to an e-mail.
Send the e-mail to **joshua.gervais@lyndonstate.edu**.
Make sure you put "Lyndon Review" in your subject line.

All art/writing must include your name, the genre you're writing in (is it a poem, an essay or a short story?) and some way to contact you.

If you have some artwork you would like to submit, put it in a folder and place it in Chandler Gilman's door box (Vail 466).

Women's soccer captains look back on season's high points

BY ANDREW R. KOCH
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

Becky Armstrong and Meghan Skidmore have grown closer as friends because of their love for soccer.

The two seniors have been the captains of the Lyndon State Women's soccer team for the last two years. They each have been playing the sport for about 15 years now. This year, they will graduate after three seasons under the guidance of Head Coach Miles Etter. Armstrong and Skidmore helped lead the team to the last two of their four consecutive Sunrise Conference championships.

This year was a season of transition for the Lady Hornets. The athletic programs have left the Sunrise Conference and joined the United States Collegiate Athletic Association (USCAA). This transition lead to a tougher schedule for the team, and it showed this year. The Lady Hornets have struggled to a record of 6-9, with only two road games left in their season.

"The second half of the season, we played a hundred times better than at the start of the season," said Skidmore, a forward.

"We had a rough start. We had a lot of injuries at the start of the season," said Armstrong, a midfielder. "Having a lot of freshmen is tough; that's always a challenge. It took a couple games for everyone to figure out their roles. I think we did figure it out."

"We had a young team. We lost three of our players last year to graduation," Armstrong said about some of the challenges the team faced this year. She and Skidmore said that welcoming the freshmen, filling those spots vacated by graduation, and taking on a tougher schedule this season were some of the team's other goals for the year.

Neither captain cited any particular opponent as their toughest competition this season.

"We took it game by game," Armstrong said. "It's not always about winning and losing. We went into every game thinking we always had a chance to win. No one was upset about the losses."

"We worked on becoming a family, becoming close on and off the field," Skidmore said.

"I hope everyone can stay close during the off-season, so they can transfer that into next year. We think it's important to be together off the field."

"I'm glad I was a part of the transition this year," Armstrong said. "I was asked if I'd wished I was done last year, after the successful season we had. I said, 'No, because the girls we met this year, I hope they learned something from us.'"

The captains both agreed that trying to gel together as a team this season proved to be a real challenge.

"Do you have any idea how hard it is to get 20 girls to connect?" asked Armstrong. "It was hard for us to hang out at the start of the season, because we had the freshmen who were still getting used to school. It's easier to hang out now at the end of the season."

On Oct. 16, the team honored Armstrong and Skidmore for Senior Day before their last home game of the season against St. Michael's College.

Tabitha Fitzgerald, Critic Staff

Senior Captains Megan Armstrong (left) and Becky Armstrong look back on successful season.

Secrets to burning calories

BY DANIELLE SYKES
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

To lose one pound, 3500 calories must be burned according to dieticians.

"It's important to realize you burn calories not only when you're exercising, but when you're doing nothing at all," said Sharon Anderson, an R.D. at the Northern Vermont Regional Hospital.

Calories matter, but they are not the most important factor when trying to lose or maintain weight, Anderson said. If the amount of calories burned is more than the amount of calories consumed daily, weight will be lost.

"Toning muscles is important when trying to lose weight," Anderson said. Muscles burn more calories than fat, so increasing muscle mass is imperative to people trying to lose weight.

Keeping track of calories is essential to maintaining or losing weight, but many people don't know how many calories are burned by exercising. The NutriStrategy Organization has done research to determine how many calories are burned during particular activities.

The average weight shown was 155 pounds; the following numbers are calculated for that weight. The calories burned would be typical for one hour of exercise.

Four pages of activities and exercises are listed on the organization's website at www.nutristategy.com. The website www.prevention.com also has a calorie burning calculator. Upon entering body weight, duration of activity, and type of exercise, one can learn how many calories were likely burned during the activity.

Exercise / Activity	Calories Burned Per Hour
Broomball	495
Ice Fishing (sitting)	140
Ice Hockey	565
Hunting	350
Shoveling Snow	420
Ice Skating	495
Speed Skating	1055
Cross-country Skiing	565
Ski Jumping	495
Alpine Skiing	350
Snowshoeing	565
Snowmobiling	245
Sledding/ tobogganing	495

Statistics from NutriStrategy.com

Cross country team scores personal best

BY JAKE MARDIN
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

Six LSC runners posted personal records on Oct. 13 at the Saint Michael's Invitational in Colchester.

Setting records on the men's side were Jeremiah Powell, with a time of 28:13; Justin Russo, 28:46; and Jonathan Cunningham, 30:09.

On the women's side, all three runners recorded their best runs on a 5-kilometer course. Leading the way was Lyndsay Calkins, with a time of 18:14; Catherine Carver, 24:14; and Hayley Joseph, 25:20.

Despite the great performances, the competition proved to be too tough as the men's team finished last out of four teams while the women's team finished with an incomplete score.

The top LSC men runners were Jacob Silverio, who ran a time of 27:44, and Jonathan Harty, who finished with a time of 27:58.

The University of Vermont, the largest school on the field, finished the day on top of the men's standings with a score of 15, followed by smaller schools Norwich University, Saint Michael's College, and LSC with a score of 77.

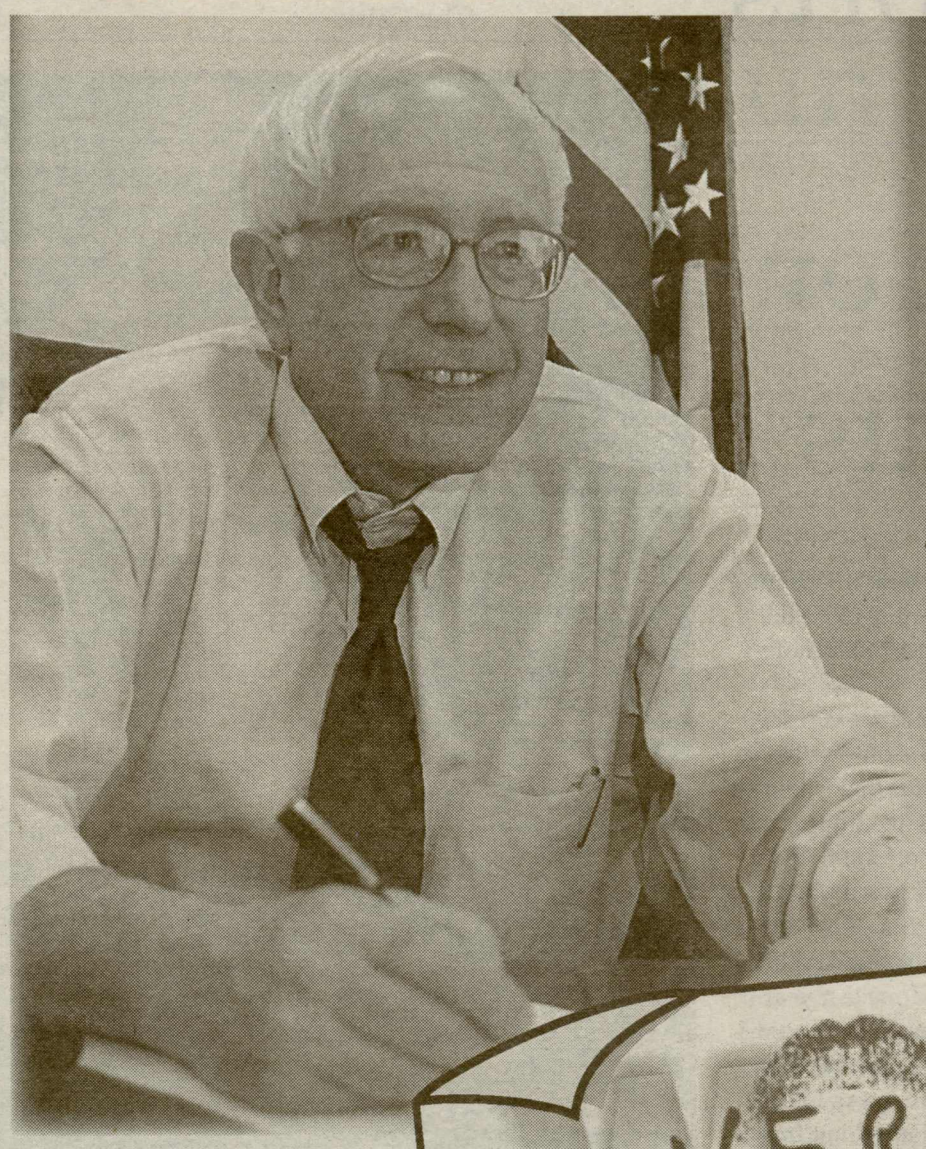
The top women's teams were UVM, with a score of 15, and Saint Michael's, ending the day with a score of 50. LSC and Norwich both finished with incomplete scores due to a lack of runners.

The LSC cross country team will compete for the final time this season at the USCAA National Championships in Buena Vista, Virginia. All of the runners for the men's team will be competing, as well as Calkins. The championships will be held on Oct. 27.

Upcoming Events:
Men's Soccer
USCAA National Championship Tournament
11/2-11/4

Women's Soccer
USCAA National Championship Tournament
11/2-11/4

Men's Basketball
Alumni Game
3:00 pm



Bernie Sanders: An unapologetic Supporter of Womens' Rights

VERMONT™
Women's Voices for the 21st Century

From the October issue of Vermont Woman:

For his experience, his outspokenness, and his unwavering dedication to being a voice for the women of Vermont from Burlington City Hall in 1981 to the last 15 years in Congress, we endorse Bernie Sanders for U.S. Senate.

Congressman Sanders has an indisputable track record in support of the women of Vermont, from his crucial support of establishing the National Program of Cancer registries in the Center for Disease Control in the early 1990s to his more recent co-sponsorship of the Federal Freedom of Choice Act in 2004 and programs in Vermont, working to increase funding for women's small business centers, and supporting the continuation of the Commodity Supplemental Food Program. He has also been a national leader in the fight to protect civil liberties from attacks under the guise of "national security," a defendant of Congress' role as a check on executive power and an outspoken critic of the enduring economic inequalities in America.

In contrast, Rich Tarrant, while a successful business owner as co-founder of IDX, is vying for the highest elected seat in Vermont with no previous legislative experience at any level. Tarrant had no comment on the doctrine of pre-emptive war; will only take a specific stand on reproductive rights by repeating that Roe v. Wade is "the law of the land" (leaving serious questions whether he would vote to maintain or undermine that law); has no opinion on the Hyde Amendment or global gag rule restrictions on funding abortion services for recipients of Medicaid or international aid; and believes that civil unions should be extended to siblings. In the absence of any voting record, we found his reluctance to engage with the nuances and principles of issues ranging from the Congressional balance of powers to reproductive rights, civil liberties, and national security very troubling.

Tarrant's decision to go into public service after all these years as a business owner is laudable. We encourage him to run at the state level and develop experience in Montpelier to supplement his business acumen.

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VOTE On Nov. 7

The Critic

VOTE On Nov. 7

Serving the student voice of the Northeast Kingdom

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Lyndonville, Vermont · Friday, November, 3, 2006 · Volume 53, Number 5

Inside

Elections

As Vermont's lone and independent congressional representative, Bernie Sanders has made a name for himself.

Pgs 4,5

Dingdongs & Goofballs

Since my last column was published, a lot of people have asked me if it was true, did I break up with my girlfriend who, as I learned afterwards, was a prostitute?

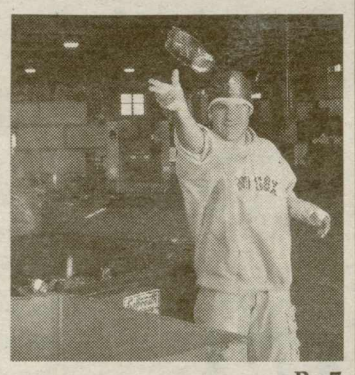
Pg 3

Sports

LSC's Ultimate Frisbee team participated in a tournament called Danse Macabre, or Dance of the Dead, this Halloween weekend in Rochester, NY.

Pg 8

Campus Cleanup



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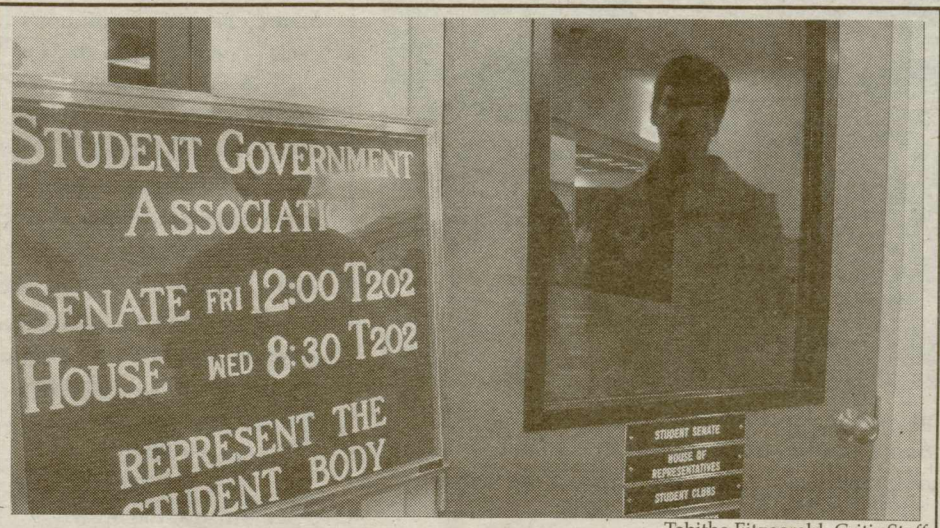

Tabitha Fitzgerald, Critic Staff

Tom Kurts, an LSC freshman, looks in at the darkened student government office on Thursday. The senate suspended itself last week for constitution violations.

Senate suspended by Senate

By KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
CRITIC STAFF

The LSC Senate voted 5-4 to suspend itself because it had violated its constitution.

Sen. Jeremy Lacey made the motion to suspend the Senate until the Student Government Association's executive board and advisors read over the SGA constitution and made changes to the violated parts.

"The reason why I made the motion was because I felt that there was a critical need to hold ourselves accountable and to ensure that we adhere to our own constitution, as we require all other clubs to do," Lacey said.

Not all members of the SGA executive board agreed with the motion passed by Senate. "I'm going to veto the motion made by Jeremy Lacey," Lars Christensen, SGA president, said.

"It's not to sidestep the issue, "Christensen said, "We're still working towards the end the motion made."

Sen. Michael Dana was not in agreement with the Senate's decision either. "Suspending the Senate from acting only hurts the student body," Dana said. "I think that SGA members are beginning to use their own personal agendas to negatively impact the student body via SGA."

Christensen wants to go over the SGA constitution and find out what exactly has been violated but does not want the Senate suspeneded; the intention is not to avoid the issue of there being violations, Christensen said.

Currently the only types of violations that have been discussed are late elections and senate contracts. Otherwise there is nothing specific, Lacey said.

Motions passed by House that have to go the Senate for approval will have to wait until Senate reconvenes. If they do not, Christensen will have the power to pass allocations from House.

The motion was made in response to comments made off the record about the SGA violating its constitution. "There are no direct charges for violations of the constitution," Christensen said. "We're basically going over the constitution to figure out what's in violation."

Thefts bring police, public safety together

By CALEB BYERLY
CRITIC STAFF

Six cars have been broken into and had belongings stolen in the last week. Things such as electronic equipment, stereo systems and even a passport are among the items stolen from the vehicles.

All the thefts have occurred in early morning and of the cars broken into, only one was locked, although that car had its window destroyed.

Public Safety Director George Hacking has brought the Vermont State Police and the Lyndonville Police together in a concerted effort to stop this outbreak of theft.

"This incident is not confined to the LSC campus; there have been incidents similar to this reported in Lyndonville as well," Hacking said.

Hacking hopes that coordinating efforts between the three agencies and sharing information will help them catch the person or persons behind the thefts. Hacking is also working with WWLR, LSC's radio station, to create a public safety announcement in order to provide information to the students and the Lyndonville community.

"If you should see any suspicious activity, it is important that you do not approach these people," Hacking said. "The best thing for someone to do is to be the best witness they can by getting a detailed description of the individual, of the vehicle, and of any accomplices this person may have."

If anyone has any information regarding these thefts, they are strongly encouraged to contact Public Safety (ext.1111 or 626-6432).

Abortion rights initiative stirs up conflict in California

By CLAIRE MITCHELL & ANDY STOKOLS
Daily Californian (UC-Berkeley)

(U-WIRE) BERKELEY, Calif. -After a similar proposition was defeated last year, California voters will again consider a measure that would require parental notification for females under 18 seeking an abortion. Like last year's push for parental notification, Proposition 85 would require physicians to notify parents of abortion procedures unless that requirement is waived by a judge.

This year, the proposed state constitutional amendment does not refer to the fetus as a "child" and keeps the records of judges who grant waivers confidential-changes supporters hope will make the measure less controversial.

"Now the bill is not so much about abortion as it is about parental notification," said Liz Saroki, co-president of Berkeley Students for Life.

Despite the effort to soften controversy surrounding Proposition 85, many opponents still say the initiative -- backed by groups such as Evangelicals for Social Action and the Traditional Values Coalition -- is part of a larger campaign to restrict reproductive rights.

"These are all organizations that are a part of a larger effort to outlaw all abortions," said Ashley Morris, co-president of UC Berkeley ACLU.

Though almost 70 percent of Alameda County voters opposed last November's version of the measure, it was only rejected by about 53 percent of voters statewide in the election's tightest proposition race.

For both sides, the safety of girls is again at the center of the debate.

"We've seen data that propositions like 85 have reduced teen abortions," Saroki said.

But others argue that the proposition will endanger the lives of girls from violent or sexually abusive homes.

To navigate around notification laws, girls may resort to back-alley abortions or travel across state lines to receive illegal abortions, Morris said.

"I don't like putting girls in a position where they have to decide between family harmony or their health and future," said UC Berkeley graduate student Jay Purcell.

Supporters of Proposition 85 believe it will encourage proper communication among family members about abortion procedures.

"It's important to realize that abortions are invasive. They often require at least one follow-up, antibiotics, and medication afterward," Saroki said. "If the parents know about it they can help you follow up on it."

But opponents argue the judicial bypass provision of the proposition is not a reasonable option for girls who cannot afford to notify their parents because of violent home situations or other circumstances.

"A young woman is pregnant, scared, and probably in the most vulnerable state of her life and we're going to require her to navigate through the bureaucracy of California's overcrowded court system," Morris said.

HEALTH SERVICES STAFF

Back row (left to right): Paula Chamberlin (Adm. Asst) - Angela Ryan-Williams (Academic and Personal Counseling & Project Excel) - Cheryl Santacaterina (master level intern) - Penny Kimball (M.S. Counselor) - Alice Anton (master level practicum) - Elizabeth Truslow (M.S., M.A. counselor)
Front row (left to right): Miriam Simon (Physician Asst) - Leo Sevigny (Associate Dean for Student Affaires) - Sam Silverman (mental heatlh counselor) - Bill W. (master level intern)

Marie Flood joins LSC nursing staff

By DANIELLE SYKES
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

The population of Lyndon State College is a continuous cycle of people; most stay for some duration of time, but many never return.

She has come back to learn, but she is not a student. Instead, the knowledge she expects to gain will come from students.

Marie Flood is a new face to some on campus this year. She has always lived in the Lyndon area. She worked in LSC's Upward Bound office years ago, now she is a Registered Nurse at the Brown House.

Flood said she got bored with her previous jobs. Prior to becoming a nurse, she tried several different fields. Flood worked in factories, offices and was the editor and publisher of Lyndon Institute's news.

The decision to become a nurse came about, Flood said, "because there are so many areas of nursing, it's a job I really felt I could grow with." She didn't know nursing was what she wanted to do until later in life; she received her degree in 1996 from Norwich University.

Flood is eager about this particular nursing job because she has never worked with a college-aged population before. She said it should be a good fit because she likes relationships and loves people.

Flood said, "College is hard – you have to build some kind of support network." She said it is a different experience for students and reaching out to new people helps gain a broad base of support that can be critical to success.

"Don't worry that a problem is too small," said Flood, "we are all here to help and we are approachable."

"Honor all your commitments and know that you may have to be easier on yourself to get there." She said many adults have high expectations for themselves considering all the things they are trying to manage while getting an education. Finding a balance is what is most important.

Flood resides in Burke with her husband; her children are grown. She enjoys road biking, volleyball, quilting and scrap booking for her 4-year-old granddaughter. She also works part-time at another local medical center.

Some faces Flood recognizes from the job she held at LSC before, but so far nursing here is an open book and she is eager to "learn about a new age."

Flag football tournament Nov. 5

By DILLON ELIASSEN
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

LSC' s American Meteorological Society is sponsoring a flag football tournament to be held on the rugby field on Sunday, Nov. 5 at 10 a.m.

Each team must include seven players, but are allowed an eighth as a substitute.

The entrance fee is $15, with the money to be split between the winning team and the AMS. Entrees will be accepted up until 9:45 a.m. on Sunday.

The tournament is not just for meteorology majors; any student can enter.

"I just love football," Television Studies major Paul Snyder said. "This is the closest you can get to playing football at this school."

For any questions contact Maliawco at ext. 1710, or at: Richard.Maliawco@lyndonstate.edu

Enjoy needles, they could save your life

By DANIELLE SYKES
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

Up to 20 percent of the population of the United States will contract influenza this year, the Center for Disease Control said.

The best known way to prevent the flu is to get a vaccination yearly. October and November are the recommended months to get an immunization.

"The most infectious people live next to each other," said Susan Duckett, a registered nurse at LSC's Brown House.

The CDC recommends children, the elderly, and pregnant women be vaccinated, but Duckett said anyone continuously in close contact with others, such as college students living on campus, should also consider being vaccinated.

Washing your hands frequently is a key component in the prevention of contracting and spreading the virus Duckett said.

According to the CDC, one day before flu symptoms develop and five days after becoming sick, the flu virus can be passed.

Influenza can lead to other complications such as pneumonia, ear infections and dehydration.

The flu shot is not offered at the Brown House, but Duckett suggested that if enough students wanted to be immunized, Caledonia Home Health may be able to set up a clinic. The more people that receive a vaccination, the lower the cost would be per person.

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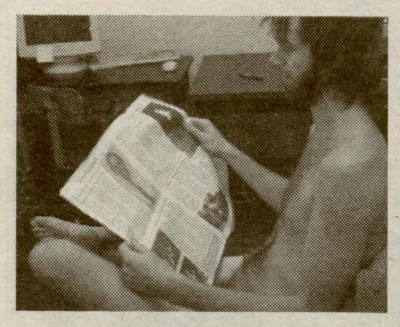

By DILLON ELIASSEN
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

Since my last column was published, a lot of people have asked me if it was true, did I break up with my girlfriend who, as I learned afterwards, was a prostitute? The answer, faithful readers, is of course not; that lazy broad never worked a day in her life!

I didn't really break up with anyone recently, nor have I been dating anyone during my time at LSC. In fact, nothing in that column, except for one fun little escapade, was true. If you know what it was, e-mail your answer to me on the LSC e-mail server. The first person to send in the correct answer will be awarded $100 by my editor Joshua James Gervais out of his own pocket. Seriously.

Dating in college can be difficult. College is the first time a lot of people get out on their own, and they must learn how to rely on themselves to survive in the world. Students need to find a balance between school, work, visiting family, alcohol, drugs, sex, and rock and roll. With a new and busy lifestyle, it's hard to meet someone whose personality meshes with your own. Sometimes I think that if it wasn't for booze, nobody in college would get together. If you are a single dude in college, like me, try these ways to pick up chicks.

One way to start a relationship is to impress a girl with your intelligence. The world-renowned and influential sex therapist Matthew Wojcik suggests using his "Trebek Attack" method of meeting women. If you have DVR or Tivo, record and watch Jeopardy, and then watch it again with your girl. When you answer every question correctly your girl will be amazed by how smart you are, and maybe you'll get the Daily Double in bed.

If you're at a bar, try buying a girl a drink, but flash your cash roll while you pay for it. What you need is just two large denomination bills, but then you take a bunch of scrap pieces of paper, cut them in the shape of a bill, and pretend your wad of cash is huge. Basically, you're lying about how much money you have. This works best on gold-digger girls; or prostitutes.

My favorite one is one I invented called "Whiskey Shot Speed Dating." You buy 10 shots of whiskey, and invite the five hottest girls at the bar over to where you're sitting. You talk to each one for a minute, and at the end of the minute you and the girl throw back a shot. Now here's the best part of Whiskey Shot Speed Dating: if you don't hit it off with one of those five girls, you just start round two, because now you've got five shots of whiskey in you and the girls who didn't make the first cut start looking a lot cuter. The more rounds you play, the lower your standards get, and that increases your odds of not going home alone.

I guess none of these ways are good tips on how to start a relationship, more like how to hook-up with drunken dames. This is cool, if you're into that I guess. At 26 years of age, I'm starting to become more interested in marriage than a fling. I'm tired of being alone…and I'm getting real tired of cooking and cleaning.

This month I'm writing a novel. What are you doing?

By JOSHUA JAMES GERVAIS
EDITORIAL EDITOR

I want to be a writer. That's why I'm putting myself into debt to enroll myself in classes here at LSC, so I can mold myself into something that resembles a fully formed person and write for the rest of my life. Sadly, I do far less writing than I would like to, and when I do write during the school year it's because I have to for a class. I don't have the time or energy when I'm at school, and even when I'm not busy, my natural inability to stick to a schedule that I set for myself foils my attempts at writing for myself. The only exception to this trend is the month of November when I gently push school work and personal obligations aside to make room for National Novel Writing Month contest—also known as the NaNoWriMo.

The goal of the NaNoWriMo is to write a 50,000 word novel during the month of November. You start on the first day of the month with nothing but notes (if that), and write your heart out until November 30. The quality of the novel isn't important—only that it gets done by the end of the month. The only prize is the knowledge that you can write a great deal more than you thought you could, and that writing a novel is something you can really do.

This will only be my second year I've tried the NaNoWriMo. Last year I finished with only a couple hours to spare, and my novel wasn't very good. I still haven't shown anyone that novel because it is just so bad, but I'm still proud that I wrote it. This year my goal is to produce something that is good enough to merit revision after the contest, which is the natural next step. NaNoWriMo tends to be fairly raw stuff since you don't really have time to go back and make revisions.

This year's NaNoWriMo is just starting, but it isn't too late to start your own novel. I missed at least a week's worth of days last year, and I still managed to finish. After a little time I started writing far more than I had ever written before. By the end of the month I was writing over 5,000 words per day while going to classes and keeping up with my homework. If you're interested in the NaNoWriMo go to http://www.nanowrimo.org/ for more information.

There's an important lesson here even for people that don't want to write a novel; people are capable of a lot more than they give themselves credit for. Unless a person goes out and starts working towards his or her goals, nothing is going to happen. It's important to work towards your goals now instead of some undefined time in the future that may never come. What are you waiting for?

Promise Scholarship can't keep its promise

By DILLON ELIASSEN
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

On Oct. 25 UVM hosted a televised debate between Vermont Governor Jim Douglas and Scudder Parker. A UVM student asked what steps the two candidates would take to entice young Vermonters to stay in the state after they leave school. Douglas said that Vermont has the second oldest average age, in terms of its population, in the union, and that if he was re-elected he would try to get his Promise Scholarship plan passed.

The Promise Scholarship is a program that would provide grant money to Vermont college students who promise to stay in Vermont for three years after they graduate,

If a student leaves the state before three years are up, half of the grant money becomes a loan. "It's designed to keep people here to be a part of our economic future," Douglas said. Although it would help students pay for the rising costs of higher education, the Promise Scholarship is not a sound proposal.

The money for the scholarship is to come from the money Vermont has and will receive from the national tobacco settlement. Douglas included this plan in his budget proposal earlier this year, but it was rejected by the Vermont Legislature, which chose instead to use the money for the state's healthcare programs.

The bitter suite taste of the Rita Bole Complex

By KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
MANAGING EDITOR

Living in suite B240 of the Rita L. Bole Complex can be crazy at times.

The reaction metal has in a microwave slipped junior Tom Borck's mind when he put a container of crab rangoons in the suite microwave without first removing the metal handle.

Michael Dana, a senior, was the first to spot the smoke. The container had caught on fire due to the electrical arc from the metal. After the problem was dealt with, the suite smelled of smoke and the top of the microwave was sporting a scorch mark.

The suite, like others on campus, can get messy at times. The Bole Complex doesn't have custodial services unlike Wheelock and Stonehenge. Students living in Bole must provide their own toiletries as well as clean the bathrooms.

For B240, the job of cleaning the bathroom has a particular way of being delegated. "Whoever gets sick of it cleans it," said Dylan Archbold.

Usually the person who gets sick of it is Sara Marquette, who lives in Wheelock but spends much of her time in suite B240. She cleans the bathroom mainly because the residents of suite B240 share their food and video games with her.

Many of the B240 residents formerly lived in Wheelock. It costs them around $800 dollars extra to live in the Bole Complex, said Borck, who isn't pleased about the extra cost and not having custodial services.

"It's worth it though," Archbold said.

Letter Policy:
The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must be signed and include the author's phone number and address. The Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:

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Get to know your candidates

Sanders still maintains independent status in VT

BY ELIZABETH STRAUSS
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

As Vermont's lone independent congressional representative, Bernie Sanders has made a name for himself.

Sanders became the first Independent elected to congress in 40 years when he was sworn in on January 3, 1991, an office he's held since then.

Born in 1941, in Brooklyn, NY, Sanders graduated from the University of Chicago in 1964 and purchased land in Middlesex, Vt. that same year. He attended his first meeting of the newly formed Liberty Union Party in 1971, and left as the party's candidate for Senate.

Despite losing that first race, and second and third for that matter (both for governor), Bernie didn't give up. In 1981 he ran for Mayor of Burlington, and won, beating the six term Democratic incumbent by just 12 votes. In 1987 he beat out a challenger supported by both the Democratic and Republican parties.

As Mayor of Burlington, Sanders brought sweeping reforms to the city. He developed a Youth Office, city-run daycare, and expanded low and moderate income housing and tenant's rights.

During Sanders' eight years in City Hall the city of Burlington almost doubled its voter turnout and increased citizen participation in local politics.

In the year between finishing his term as Mayor of Burlington, and being sworn into Congress, Bernie Sanders taught at the John F. Kennedy School at Harvard University and at Hamilton College in upstate New York.

Sanders has continued to fight for the "average American" and helped found the House Progressive Caucus with four other House members. He chaired the caucus for its first eight years. It's last three it has been chaired by other founding members.

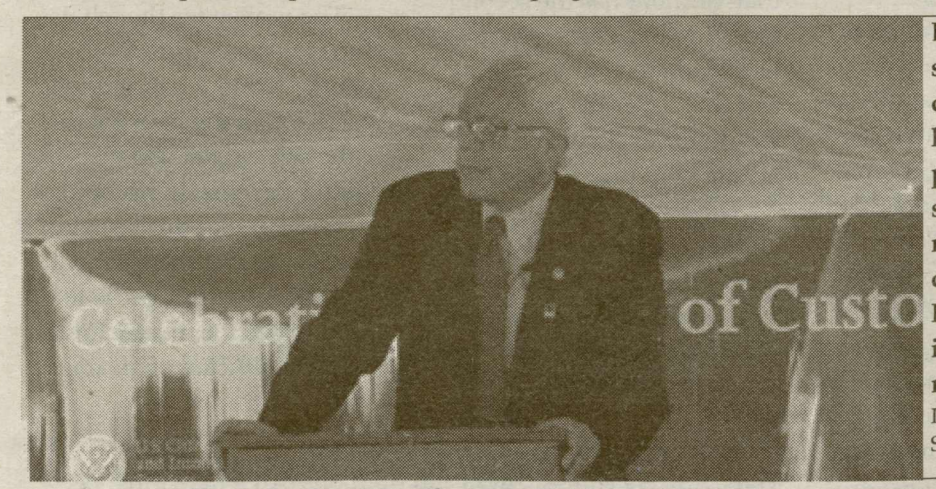
Vermont's single Congressman has become well known around the country for his work helping seniors obtain affordable prescription drugs, going so far as to organize a well publicized bus trip into Canada to get the same drugs at much cheaper prices.

He worked closely with Senators Patrick Leahy and Jim Jeffords to pass the strongly contested Northeast Dairy Compact. Preserving family farming, not only in Vermont, but around the country has been a major issue for him.

In the Senate, Sanders plans to continue to work for affordable prescription drugs for Americans and a number of other policies to help the working class.

He supports National Healthcare, and will fight to raise the minimum wage to a livable wage and change our current trade policies

Sanders says that its important that members of the United States Senate spend time not just on Capitol Hill but making contact with ordinary people and engaging them in the political process.



Bernie Sanders, speaks at a press conference. Sanders has held the Senate position in Vermont since 1991. Sanders major points for this campaign will be- Healthcare and rising the cost of minimun wage.
Photo Courtesy of Bernie Sanders for Senate.

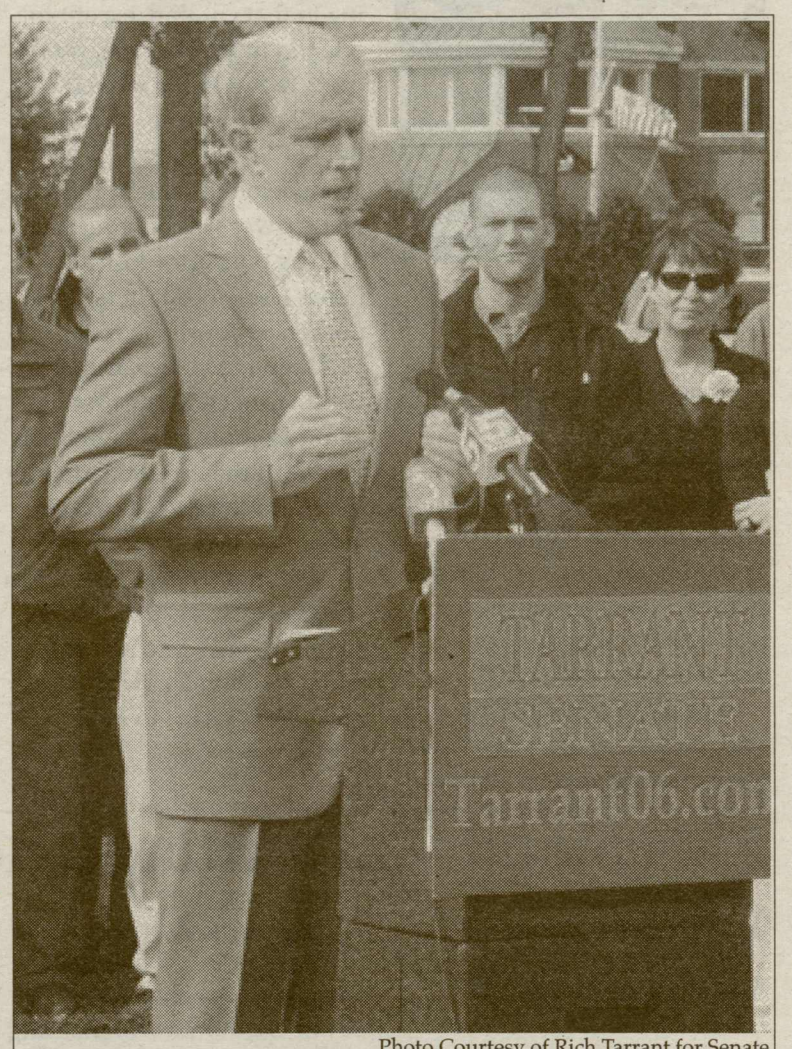


Photo Courtesy of Rich Tarrant for Senate.
Rich Tarrant speaks at a press conference in Burlington Vermont, promoting his candidacy.

Tarrant looks to crack down on healthcare

BY CALEB BYERLY
CRITIC STAFF

Rich Tarrant is the Republican candidate for the Senate, hoping to occupy the Vermont seat formerly occupied by Independent Jim Jeffords.

Tarrant has spent more than $6 million of his own money to fund his Senate campaign, running against Independent candidate Bernie Sanders.

Born in Newark, New Jersey, Tarrant worked as a full-time construction laborer making $60 per week while growing up. Tarrant later came to Vermont to attend St. Michael's college on a basketball scholarship. After getting his bachelor's degree in mathematics in 1965, Tarrant was drafted by the Boston Celtics, but was cut from the team before his first game.

Tarrant sees three important issues that the State of Vermont and the country are being faced with. The rising costs of healthcare, creating quality jobs, and reining uncontrolled government spending. With experience as a business owner in the healthcare industry, Tarrant feels confident that he will make a difference.

According to Tarrant, America health care costs are rising out of control and threaten to bankrupt the elderly as well as any baby boomers who live to old age.

"Prevention and early detection are important tools in the fight to lower health care costs and improve the overall health of Americans. It's important that all Americans get care earlier to better manage chronic diseases such as diabetes and asthma," Tarrant said on his Web site.

On the issue of educaton, Tarrant feels that the federal government has mandated how local schools must educate children with special needs, yet they have not funded this mandate.

"The federal government must fully fund special education. I also believe the federal government should explore providing technology for more individualized education," Tarrant said on his Web site.

On the issue of abortion, Tarrant would like to reduce the amount of abortions to virtually zero. Tarrant believe this will happen with increased education, parental notification legislation, and promoting adoption.

Governor Jim Douglas signs a law making veterans of the Korean War eligible for high school graduation. Standing behind are Representatives Joe Kraczyk and Mary Morrissey of Bennington Vt.

Photo Courtesy of Jim Douglas for Governor.

Douglas seeks third term

BY JAKE MARDIN
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

Jim Douglas, the current Republican governor of Vermont, is seeking reelection against Democratic challenger Scudder Parker.

If Douglas wins, it will be his third term as Vermont's governor. Douglas won the election in 2002, replacing the departing Howard Dean.

Douglas was born on June 21, 1951 in Springfield, Mass. Douglas attended Middlebury College in Vermont and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Russian Studies in 1972. Douglas still speaks Russian today and established a relationship with Karelia, Russia.

The same year he graduated from Middlebury, he was elected to the Vermont House of Representatives, where he became House Majority Leader in his third term. He was only 25.

Douglas was elected Secretary of State in 1980 and was reelected five times and held that position until 1992.

In 1994, he was elected State Treasurer, winning 94 percent of the vote. He was treasurer until 2002, when he successfully ran for Governor against Democrat Lieutenant Governor, Doug Racine, in a close election.

His second election campaign was not as close, when he beat Democrat Peter Clavelle with 59 percent of the vote to Clavelle's 38 percent.

In his political career, Douglas has received more votes than any other candidate in Vermont history.

In this year's campaign, Douglas is focusing on four areas: education, health care, housing, and property taxes.

Douglas introduced the Vermont Promise Scholarships program. Troubled by the large numbers of young adults leaving Vermont to start families in other states, Douglas introduced this program to keep more young people in Vermont. The proposal is for 15 years and $175 million.

The program will hand out over 1,000 awards a year to high school students and will pay for up to 50 percent of the tuition to a Vermont college or university.

"The next generation of Vermonters will create more and better paying jobs, helping to secure our economy," Douglas said on his official Website.

Douglas is also concerned about the high price of health insurance, and believes that Vermonters should be allowed to buy insurance from the Internet or other states.

"In some states, high quality health insurance is available to individuals and families at a fraction of the cost we pay here in Vermont," Douglas said.

Douglas also wants health savings accounts created so Vermonters can save up for medical expenses without worrying about taxes.

To combat the rising costs of homes in Vermont, which is up to a median price of $200,000, Douglas has advanced the Homes for Vermonters proposal, which will create more housing units in Vermont.

Douglas is also working to put a cap on property taxes.

"I will continue to work to reduce the property tax burden Vermonters are faced with," Douglas said.

Parker's plan for a self-insured VT

BY JOHN CHETWYND
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

Scudder Parker, an Independent leader, is running for governor of Vermont. Parker has held four terms as a Democratic Senator for Caledonia County.

Parker grew up on a dairy farm in the Northeast Kingdom. Parker's family moved to Danville Vermont when he was nine. "Farming taught me the value of hard work, good neighbors, and a strong community," Parker said. Parker was an ordained a minister in his community like his father and grandfather before him.

"I opposed the Iraq war from the first day President Bush and his team began making the argument for it. I believed then, and I am more persuaded now, that the President chose war in advance of any sound evidence or policy, and his case for it was flawed and in many ways dishonest," Parker said.

Parker does support the families of the loved ones who are serving over seas. "I believe President Bush went to war without clear objectives, without an understanding of the situation in and culture of Iraq, and with inadequate planning and resources to protect our troops," Parker said.

"Healthcare is a substantial contributor to the rising cost of living for Vermonters. We have an opportunity to create a real solution to the affordable health care crisis, but to do this Vermont needs a healthcare system that: is not tied to income or employment, removes this burden from businesses, and lets patients retain their own doctors," Parker said.

Parker's plan moves Vermont to be fully self-insured as a state. By forming a single-risk pool that includes all Vermonters, Parker hopes that Vermonters will realize the significant cost savings from the resources that already exist within the current system.

"As governor, I would offer incentives for new energy solutions. The means are out there: efficiency, solar, geothermal, biomass, and wind resources must all be part of our future. My administration will design and implement a broad and creative plan to address our energy needs," Parker said.

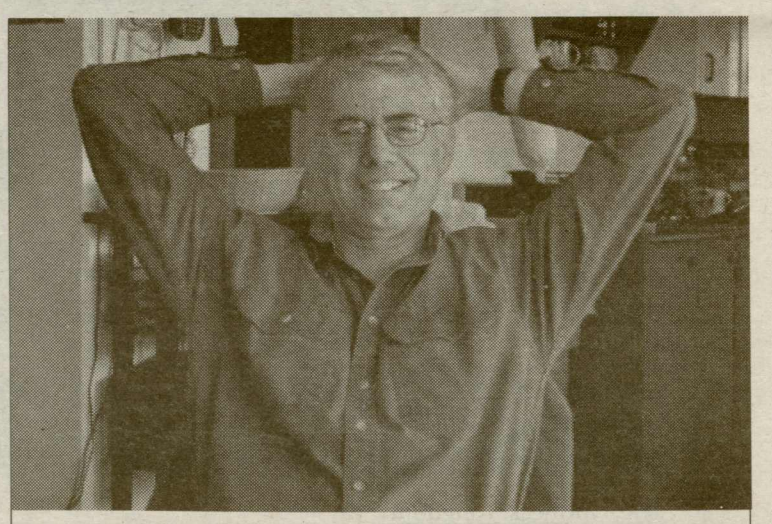


Photo courtesy of Scudder Parker for Governor

Scudder Parker relaxes after a day of campaigning.

Welch, Rainville race for U.S Congress position

BY STACY MAYNARD
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

The first female Adjutant General for the Vermont National Guard is running for U.S. Congress on the Republican ticket replacing Bernie Sanders.

"Martha Rainville believes that Washington leaders in both parties have lost their way," Brendan McKenna, Rainville's Communication Director said. "In order to bring about real change we need people to provide a fresh perspective."

"Martha Rainville believes in working in a bipartisan way, bringing different parties together," McKenna said. "Martha disagrees with Bush such as his environmental policies."

Rainville supports the House version of Senator's Jim Jeffords' Global Warming Pollution Reduction Act. This act is for reducing and eventually reversing emissions of greenhouse gases that causes global warming.

Martha Rainville, graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Education from the University of Mississippi in 1979.After her graduation Rainville entered the Air Force, graduating from Air Force Basic Military Program.

McKenna said Rainville was the first candidate to make a clean campaign pledge, encouraging others running for office to do the same. Rainville wants to talk about the issues and not attack her opponents, McKenna said.

Rainville, along with Sanders, wants to improve the VA affairs with expanding the insurance for the soldiers and their family when they return home from Iraq. They want improvement in getting help to the soldiers and their families for readjustment once home.

Peter Welch, a Democratic candidate for Vermont's lone seat in the U.S. House of Representatives, has had a career as a legislative leader, lawyer, and advocate for the underrepresented.

His accomplishments shows his commitment to bringing people together to find real solutions to the difficult challenges the state of Vermont faces and making government work for all citizens.

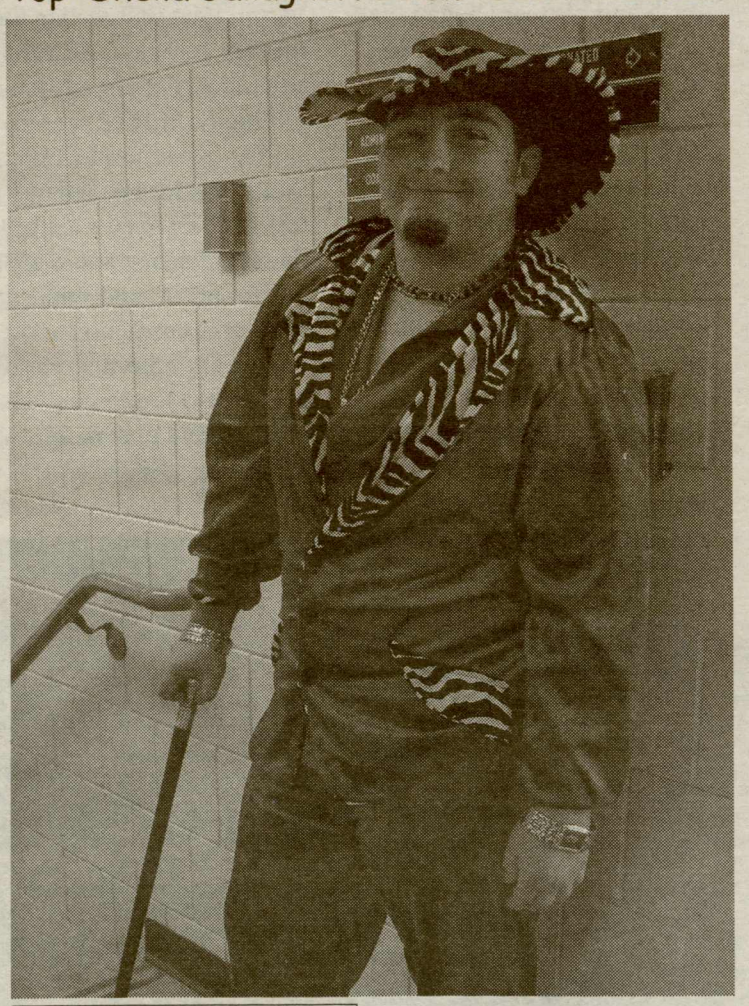
Welch has worked to balance budgets, to resolve an $80 million Medicaid deficit largely caused by the federal government.

His plans for the future consists of making prescription drugs more affordable, to make health care more accessible, and to control the explosive growth in health-care costs.

Welch has also been an advocate for protecting Vermont's environment.

Fun Page

Top: Sheila Gallagher. Below: Scott McGee.



Horoscopes

Scorpio (Oct 23-Nov 21) It seems somewhat strange to you that everywhere you go people want to fight you. Stop being a homewrecker or else you are going to get beat up.

Sagittarius (Nov 22-Dec 21) It's always best if you dont take home the drunkest person at the bar...especially when you're the "DD". You are becoming aware of how self-centered you've been. Go facepush yourself and re-evaluate your attitude.

Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 19) You've been doing some outrageous things lately. The only chance you have in making it through the semester without completely ruining your life is by becoming virtually invisible. Focus on your school work, at least you'll be smart if you can't be cool.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 18) It is best not to refer to your professors as "mami" and/or "papi". You are not A.C. Slater and you are not in the Max. If people have been saying "get a grip" to you lately, maybe you should follow their advice. Also, go bowling, it's your lucky week for strikes.

Pisces (Feb 19-Mar 20) Like always, you will have amazing sex this weekend. Aren't you a lucky bastard? Some of the things you do are extremely questionable, it's best to keep them quiet.

Aries (Mar 21-Apr 19) You have found yourself in quite the predicament. Are two lovers really better than none? Take this week and find out or else you will find yourself all by yourself.

Taurus (Apr 20-May 20) You are wondering if you have lost your mojo; but don't worry it's just a slow month for bedroom bliss. Keep at it. On the other hand your fashion sense could use some work. It's all about renovating the old. With a little imagination you could be stylin' all over again.

Gemini (May 21-Jun 21) A huge weight has been lifted off your shoulders. Breathe. You are a beautiful person and you have so much to offer. Your soulmate is out there just waiting to make you smile. If you are planning on moving, somewhere south is best for you.

Cancer (Jun 22-Jul 22) Shaking your morocas all last week really tired you out. Hey, at least you laugh at yourself if no one else does. You need a little stimuation this week or your brain is going to melt. Rent Lord of the Rings, one, two and three.

Leo (Jul 23-Aug 22) You are very attractive but that doesn't help much if your brain is the size of a pea. It is time to stop relying on your bangin' ass to get you by and start putting a little effort into things. A mysterious stranger will catch your eye this week, don't let them get away.

Virgo (Aug 23-Sept 22) You are obnoxious yet strangely sexy. I don't care what your friends say...a blumpkin is NOT an achievment. Eating wheatgrass could significantly improve your love life.

Libra (Sept 23-Oct 22) Once you are done being promiscuous go and find the person of your dreams. If you are lucky they will still be waiting. If not you always have country music.

LSC Celebrates Halloween!

The Critic is looking for people to fill the following positions:

Reporters
Photographers
Advertisers
Layout Designers
Graphic Designers
Comic Strip Artist

The Critic Meets Thursdays from 6:00 p.m.-8:40 p.m. in Lac 409.
Contact Mary Wheeler at mary.wheeler@lyndonstate.edu or critic@lyndonstate.edu for more information.
information.

LSC Northeast Kingdom Forecast

Student Meteorologist Andrew Little

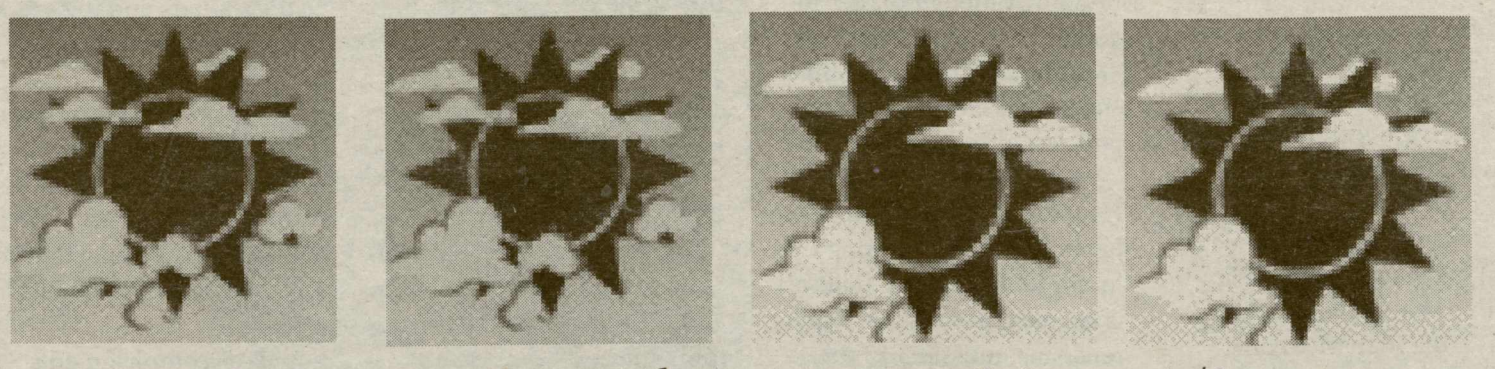
An upper-level disturbance in the Great Lakes region will provide increasing cloudiness and Westernly winds for Friday. However, the weekend will be a mix of sun and clouds, as an elongated area of high pressure, located in the Central Plains, will move east, bringing mostlu sunny skies and temperatures rising in the upper 30's. In addition, on Saturday night, expect temperatures in the mid to upper teens.

Friday Morning (Nov 3, 2006) Low: 23-29 F Mostly cloudy with winds from the West 10-15 MPH

Friday Evening (Nov 3, 2006) High: 36-41 F Mostly cloudy with winds from the Northwest 5-10 MPH

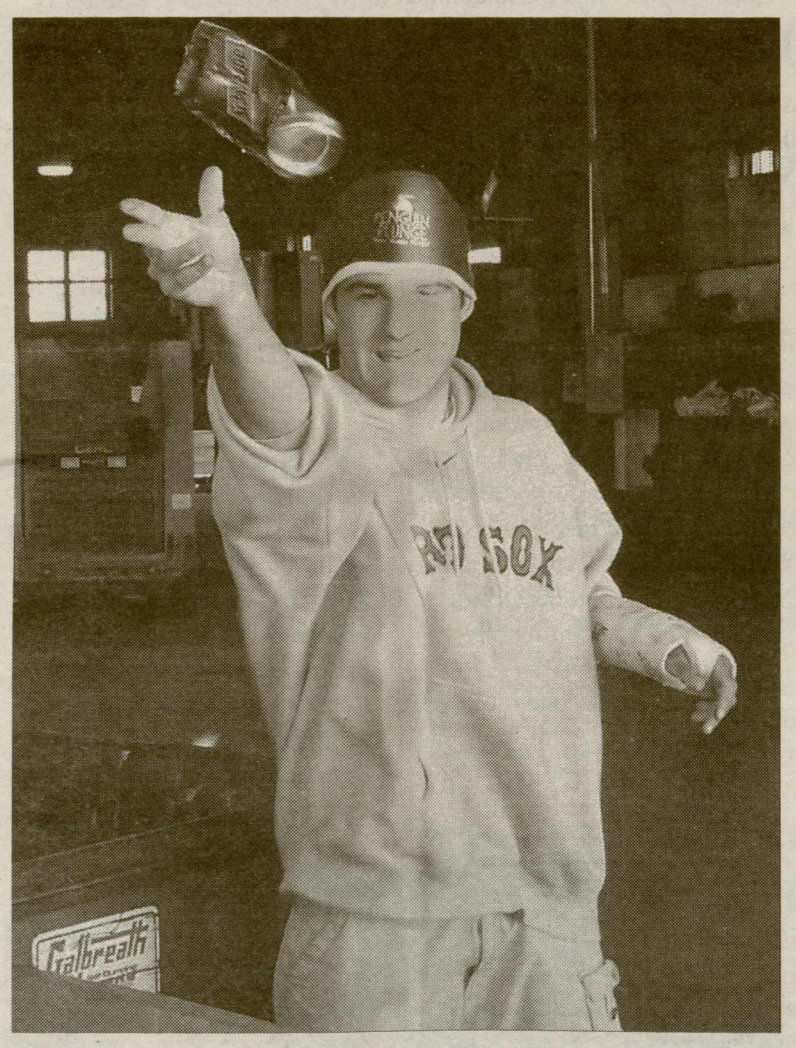
Saturday (Nov 4, 2006) Low: 20-26 F High: 36-40 F Decreasing clouds then becoming mostly sunny with winds from the Northwest 5-10 MPH

Sunday (Nov 5, 2006) Low:15-20 F High: 37-42 F A mix of sun and clouds with winds from the Northwest 5-10 MPH



For the most up-to-date weather reports at: *apollo.lsc.vsc.edu/forecast*

ASSIST participates in campus clean-up last Friday, Oct. 27th



BY MARY WHEELER
CRITIC EDITOR

Last Friday, the LSC campus was a buzz of excitement as members of ASSIST, an LSC community service organization, gathered together to clean up the campus. Members were found picking up trash in the Stonehenge parking lot and courtyard, the pond across from Steven's dining hall, and the road leading up to the college.

Once a semester, ASSIST participates in campus cleanup. ASSIST is planning on teaming up with the Natural Science Society and making it happen more often.

ASSIST started up as an active club again six years ago and has continued to have activities directed towards community service. Once or twice a semester, especially around the holidays, ASSIST offers parents night off, a program which provides free babysitting to children in the community. Members of ASSIST also visit neighboring nursing and rehabilitation homes including Canterbury Inn in Saint Johnsbury and The Pines in Lyndonville.

ASSIST consists of five different committees which members sit on. These include, HELP-Housing for Every Living Person, REACT-Readily Engaging in Activities with Children Today, CARE- Committee Addressing Relationships with the Elderly, CCUP-Campus Clean Up and ASB-Alternative Spring Break.

Every spring, ASSIST finds places to volunteer for their Alternative Spring Break. In past years, members have traveled down to El Salvador. Last year, the group stayed local, working at local food pantries, the Riverside Life Enrichment Center, and the Northeast Kingdom Youth Services.

On Halloween, ASSIST collected 400 can goods with the help of Residential Life which will be donated to the Lyndonville Food Shelter.

The group meets every other Wednesday at 8:30 p.m. The group is looking for volunteers and all ideas and suggestions are welcomed.

Members of the executive board include: Patrick McLaughlin, President, Amanda Latuch, Vice President, Laura Ballard, Treasurer, and Joe Reedy, Secretary.

Photos: Jillian Hall and Kurt Heinchon put trash into a truck, A group shot of members of ASSIST from left to right: Amanda Latuch, Jennifer Havard, Laura Ballard, Patrick McLaughlin, Jillian Hall, Jackie Richardson, Laura Potter, and Kurt Heinchon. Kurt Heinchon throws a can into the trash. Below left Jillian Hall, Laura Ballard and Jackie Richardson collect trash around the pond. Members of ASSIST rest after a day of clean-up.

Ultimate Frisbee takes on Penn State

BY JESSICA MILLISER
CRITIC STAFF

LSC's Ultimate Frisbee team participated in a tournament called Danse Macabre, or Dance of the Dead, this Halloween weekend in Rochester, NY.

Each team was required to wear some type of costume while playing and LSC's team decided to go to the Salvation Army and get full-piece suits.

Thirty different teams from all around played in the tournament. LSC played the University of Rochester and Pennsylvania State University. Lyndon's first game of the tournament was against the University of Rochester. They lost 13-5. "That game was a little tough. We have lots of new freshman and the whole tournament atmosphere was new to us so it took a little while to get into the flow," said Rick Kinsman, captain of the team.

The second game was against Pennsylvania State University. "This was a good game," said Kinsman, "We scored first, which was a good confidence booster and then went point for point with them up until the score was tied at 4."

The weather over the weekend was not merciful so all Sunday games got cancelled and the LSC/Penn State game had to be shortened. Where games would normally go until someone scores 13 points, they had to reduce it to nine. "The wind picked up on us which made scoring harder and longer than it normally would have. It also caused us lots of turnovers," Kinsman said.

When the score reached 5-4, Penn State, it was then decided to go to 7 instead of nine. Penn State ended up winning, "But we stayed with them the whole way, which was good. We worked more as a team," Kinsman said.

Ultimate Frisbee is becoming a popular, competitive, college club sport. "Our team is looking good this year, we have a lot of freshman so hopefully they stick around for next year," said Kinsman.

During the winter months, the team will practice and play pick-up games in the Standard Gym and then return to the intramural field once the snow melts. "Our hope for the spring season is to go to more tournaments," said Kinsman.

The team practices Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 2:30 and new faces are always welcome.

Photo by Jameson Kneeland

Left to right is Tracy Anketell, Tyler Southard, Matt Amidio, Jeff Bonneau, Alex Maglaris, Steve Glazier, Byran Shaw, Rick Kinsman, Casey Morrison, Justin Bishop, Sam Gaddes, Bryon Brockney, Tom Kurtz. Missing Jameson Kneeland.

LSC Women's tennis team shows strongest season yet

BY CRYSTAL JAMES
CRITIC STAFF

The LSC women's tennis team has recently finished one of their finest seasons. The team, made up of four seniors, one junior and two freshman, was led by second year senior captains Rachel Guilmette and Danielle LaPlante.

With an overall record of 10-2 the Lady Hornets had the strongest season yet.

The two losses that the women had were to Colby-Sawyer (0-9) and Plymouth State (1-8) which were both played at home. Some wins included a close game at Becker College in Mass. (5-4), Johnson State, and for the first time since 1977, Castleton State.

Mary Lou Bell, the women's tennis coach for over seven years, said "though this is not the first winning season we have had, it is definitely the strongest team," She continued, "the girls were very focused, always prepared and showed outstanding sportsmanship."

Along with captains, Guilmette and LaPlante, LSC tennis will also lose seniors, Jen Hough and Michelle Robert, to graduation. Though the seniors are an experienced and vital part of the team, junior Jessica Donaghy and freshmen Ashley Dewhurst and Sue Promphong will step up and be counted on to carry the team next season.

Mary Lou Bell, Courtesy Photo

Clockwise from top left: Danielle LaPlante, Jessica Donaghy, Jennifer Hough, Sue Promphong, Coach Mary Lou Bell, Ashley Dewhurst, Michelle Robert, Rachel Guilmette.

THE CRITIC

Serving the student voice of the Northeast Kingdom

Lyndonville, Vermont | Friday, November, 10, 2006 | Volume 53, Number 6

FREE

INSIDE

SPORTS

The calendar's turned to November and that can only mean that Hornets basketball is right around the corner.

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DINGDONGS & GOOFBALLS

Maybe if the new National Space Policy had been introduced after the Democrats gained seats in Congress, it wouldn't have gotten as far as President George W. Bush's desk so he could sign it into law.

Pg 3

PHAT KATS VS. THE PACKING HOUSE

Every college student knows the routine. Wake up at noon, skip the shower, spray some febreeze, throw some clothes on, and go to class (maybe).

Pg 4

ARAMARK PRICES TOO HIGH?

Some students feel they are being stung by the Hornet's Nest, but LSC's food services director said prices are fairly negotiated and compared annually.items.

Pg 2

GREAT AMERICAN SMOKEOUT DAY

In the early 1970's the publisher of the Monticello Times, Lynn Smith announced her plans for D-Day, the observation of a day that calls for all smokers to the battlefield and challenges them to a smoke-free 24 hours.

Pg 2

VERMONT ELECTION DAY 2006 RESULTS

GOVERNOR

Douglas (R) def. Parker (D)

U.S. SENATE

Sanders (I) def. Tarrant (GOP)

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Democrats +29
Republicans -28
Independents -1

Murder in *Lyndonville:*

A stunned community tries to recover from a tragic loss

By JOSHUA DAMASO
CRITIC STAFF

Last Sunday's shooting behind the Municipal Building in Lyndonville has officially been ruled a murder/suicide.

According to police reports, Carol Lozinski, 32, and John Chichester, 33, were found dead behind the building after a 911 call reporting shots being fired at approximately 3:50 p.m. Sunday evening. Lozinski was found with multiple gunshot wounds in her torso and nearby Chichester was found with three gunshot wounds in his chest.

Numerous reports recall a relationship between Chichester and Lozinski, which started in Montana before both moved to Vermont approximately a year ago. Roughly two months ago the two separated and Lozinski moved to Lyndonville, distancing herself from Chichester who resided about 12 miles away in Easy Haven. It was then that Chichester started following Lozinski to her apartment and would show up at her workplace randomly. After Chichester arrived at Lozinski's workplace this past September, a notice of trespass was issued to him.

Though they were separated, the two would still spend time walking their dogs in Lyndonville. It was when the two showed up this past weekend to walk their dogs that Chichester turned a 40 caliber Glock 22 on Lozinski before turning it on himself. Detectives found two dogs inside Chichester's truck bed after they arrived at the scene of the crimes.

Tabitha Fitzgerald, Critic Staff

Lyndon State students mourn the loss of Carol Lozinski Thursday night in Burke.

After a police search of Chichester's apartment, numerous notes stating that he couldn't live without Lozinski were found.

After the shooting had been reported, Lyndon State College President Carol Moore put the school in a high security situation, not allowing anyone to enter the school without a student identification card. Public safety combed the building, locked all doors, and blocked off roads coming into the school. According to LSC's Dean of Institutional Advancement Bob Whittaker, the school never technically went under lock down, security was just heightened.

The security heightening lasted only about three hours, starting at approximately 4 p.m., and ending right around 7 p.m. Sunday night.

This past Thursday night a candlelight vigil was held in memory of Lozinski by Umbrella beside the Burke town gazebo. Roughly three-dozen attendees read poetry, shared their thoughts, and took part in a moment of silence for Lozinski. Attendees included many of Lozinski's coworkers, several LSC students, and members of surrounding communities.

Tabitha Fitzgerald, Critic Staff

Lyndon State College junior Aaron Brown joins in a candlelight vigil in memory of Carol Lozinski on Thursday night in Burke.

College campus tightens security

By CALEB BYERLY
CRITIC STAFF

The news of two people being murdered in downtown Lyndonville Sunday afternoon prompted the school's public safety officials to tighten their security around campus.

When President Carol Moore heard of the shootings, she had requested the Director of Public Safety to tighten security, who in turn gave the request that students remain in the residence halls.

The reason for the request was that at the time, police had not been able to confirm that a shooter had been apprehended, according to Dean of Institutional Advancement Bob Whittaker. "This was not actually a lock down." Whittaker said.

Students were allowed to move to and from the Stevens Dining Hall, provided they had their student IDs. Public Safety asked their fulltime and student employees to patrol each lot on the campus, allowing one employee per lot.

"We didn't want students to feel like they had to go into town to get food." Whittaker said.

Campus security proceeded to lock doors to the major buildings such as VAIL, the Library Academic Center, and the Alexander Twilight Theater. At roughly 7p.m., the Director of Public Safety heard from law enforcement that the campus was secure and were able to confirm there was no shooter on the loose.

LSC recognizes Great American Smokeout day

BY TABITHA FITZGERALD
CRITIC STAFF

In the early 1970's the publisher of the Monticello Times, Lynn Smith, announced her plans for D-Day, the observation of a day that calls for all smokers to the battlefield and challenges them to a smoke-free 24 hours.

On Nov. 16, LSC and the nation will be observing what has come to be known as the Great American Smokeout. LSC's theme this year is "Don't Gamble With Your Life".

The Great American Smokeout Day is just that, a day without smoking. The participants give up their cigarettes for a full 24 hours. This lets people prove to themselves that they can do it, they can quit said Brenda Sweet, secretary for the Psychology Department and Chair of the Smoking/Tobacco Education Committee on campus.

It also raises awareness and education on the matter. According to the American Red Cross' website, not smoking on a day when many other people are not smoking helps to provide a very supportive atmosphere for those who are participating.

Participants are able to share stories and problems with others that are going through the same thing they are.

This year LSC is doing something new. The Smoking/Tobacco Education Committee is sponsoring Adopt a Smoker, Sweet said. Adopting a smoker is a supportive way to encourage people to participate in the smokeout.

People on campus are encouraged to make a type of agreement with a smoker that is close to them. The agreement is that if the smoker will give up cigarettes for the day then the friend will give up doing something they love, like drinking coffee, for 24 hours in return.

There will be stickers given out to those who adopt a smoker, she said. There will also be a table in the student center on the day of the smokeout with more information about quitting smoking.

"If this causes one person to stop, the day is a success," Gordon Haym, Assistant Professor, of the smokeout said.

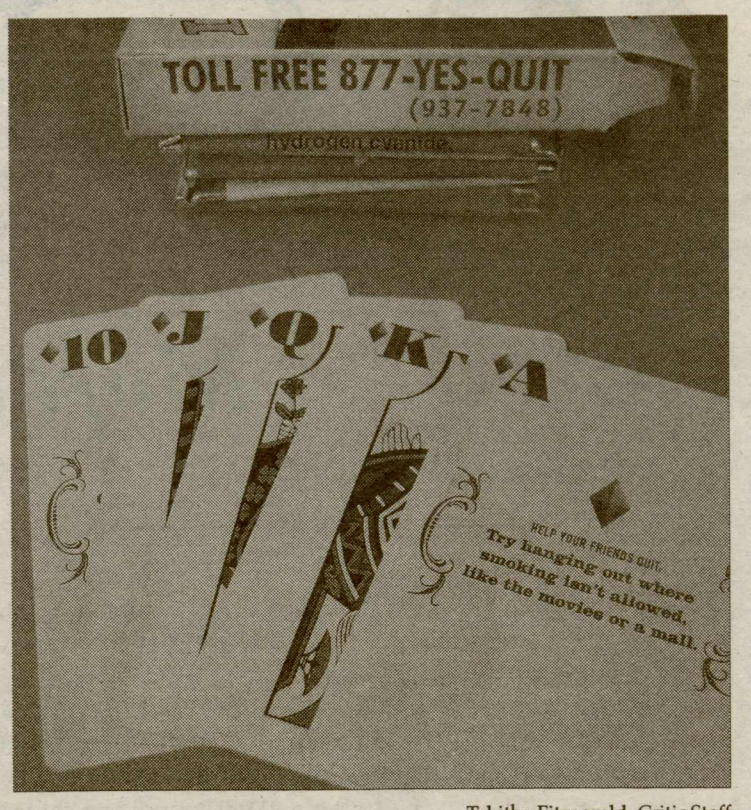
Haym was a two pack a day smoker for 11 years. He is also a victim of bladder cancer. The primary reason for his cancer is smoking. Haym said he has been smoke-free for over 40 years but he still deals with its repercussions. "I have to be "scooped" every three months until I have been cancer free for a year, which hasn't happened yet."

Haym admits it wasn't easy to quit. He said he kept reaching for his cigarettes. But after quitting he said food tasted better, he felt better and he could breathe better. Most importantly his heart now tests equivalent to that of someone 40 years younger than his age.

LSC has been deeply involved in smoking health awareness. Participation in the smokeout is just another fraction of what is being done to help people quit smoking, said Sweet. This year she said she is hoping to raise awareness and get as many students, staff and faculty members involved in the event as possible.

Over the last 30 years this event has been a success. The Red Cross' website stated that, "If pass smokeouts are any indication as many as 1/3 of the nations 46 million smokers could be taking the day off from smoking".

Sweet said that there will be table tents and flyers all over campus. She will also be sending out e-mails to let people know about the event. People wanting to participate in the Great American Smokeout of Adopt A Smoker are encouraged to contact Sweet.



Tabitha Fitzgerald, Critic Staff

A display of cards tells students and faculty about quiting smoking for the Great American Smokeout Day which will be recognized by LSC. .

Students concerned over snackbar prices

BY DANIELLE SYKES
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

Some students feel they are being stung by the Hornet's Nest, but LSC's food services director said prices are fairly negotiated and compared annually.

"[Prices] are pretty expensive and could be knocked down a little," Meghan Myers, a sophomore commuter said. Myers, who owns a vehicle avoids eating on campus, due to the prices.

Another student goes to the Hornet's Nest late at night, or when he "runs out of Ramens." Andrew Saunders, a freshman living on campus, said "The prices seem pretty reasonable."

Saunders said he doesn't get off campus much to compare, but he has the feeling prices are probably lower elsewhere. "It's hard to keep track of how much is spent when points on a card are subtracted," Saunders said. "You just know when they're gone."

One Hornet's Nest worker, who asked not to be named, said the prices are no worse than any other place of convenience.

"We are a small convenience store," Tadd Stone, the Aramark Corporation representative on campus said.

"We don't get any bulk discounts," Stone said. Grocery stores like White's Market get discounts by buying in bulk, but the Hornet's Nest doesn't have the capacity to store items.

The prices are delegated by the Vermont State Colleges so prices at every VSC campus are the same, Stone said.

Before deciding on prices, the committee goes around to local places that are considered to be on the same level and checks the prices of items.

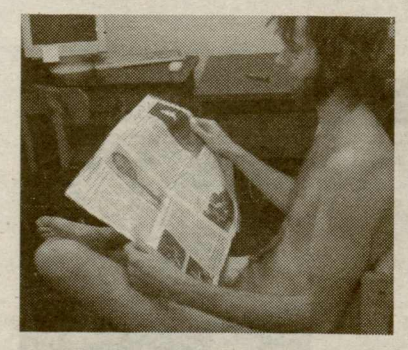
The Hornet's Nest is considered to be on the same level as other convenience stores, such as Cumberland Farms and Irving. The prices of items in the Hornet's Nest should be in the same range as prices at these stores.

The made-to-order food prices are comparable to prices at places like Hi-Boy and Lyndonville Diner, Stone said. Soda prices are a result of contracts with soda companies.

Prices are renegotiated each year in July and they are not always raised, Stone said. The prices are first compared and then must be accepted by the Chancellor and all Deans before going into effect.

Hornet's Nest	Irving	White's Market
Quaker Chewy Granola Bars(10bars)		
1.99	-	2.89
Campbell's Soup at Hand		
2.19	-	1.59
Wheat Thins (10oz.)		
3.69	3.89	2.99
Aquafina (20oz.)		
1.29	1.39	1.05

DINGDONGS & GOOFBALLS: Space, the American frontier



By DILLON ELIASSEN
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

Maybe if the new National Space Policy had been introduced after the Democrats gained seats in Congress, it wouldn't have gotten as far as President George W. Bush's desk so he could sign it into law; then we wouldn't have a policy that says our government will not enter into negotiations that would inhibit American space weapons programs, and would deny access to space for any countries we deem hostile towards U.S. interests. It's not enough for America to police countries on earth, now we're going to extend our sphere of influence (which covers the whole sphere of this planet) to outer space. I wonder if the evil empire theme from Star Wars plays when Cheney enters the Oval Office.

The actual language of the policy is surprisingly clear for something passed by Congress. These are the highlights: 1) "The United States will oppose the development of new legal regimes or other restrictions that seek to prohibit or limit U.S. access to or use of space. Proposed arms control agreements or restrictions must not impair the rights of the United States to conduct research, development, testing, and operations or other activities in space for U.S. national interests;" and 2) "The United States considers space capabilities…vital to its national interests. Consistent with this policy, the United States will: preserve its rights, capabilities, and freedom of action in space; dissuade or deter others from either impeding those rights or developing capabilities intended to do so; take those actions necessary to protect its space capabilities; respond to interference; and deny, if necessary, adversaries the use of space capabilities hostile to U.S. national interests."

In a story published by the Washington Post on Oct. 18, Marc Kaufman writes, "A number of nations have pushed for talks to ban space weapons, and the United States has long been one of a handful of nations opposed to the idea. Although it had abstained in the past when proposals to ban space weapons came up in the United Nations, last October the United States voted for the first time against a call for negotiations - the only 'no' against 160 'yes' votes." I love how our administration refuses to even discuss regulating the tactical, defensive and spying capabilities we have in space. But if any country we don't like tries to go to space, we'll try to prevent it. It's a little vague how much resistance we'll put up. Does it mean we'll shoot down a North Korean manned space shuttle?

Remember when you were a kid on the playground with your friends playing "The Ground Is Lava" or some game where you make up rules? Remember there was always that one friend who would make up the most rules, and wouldn't let other kids make up rules, but you couldn't do anything about it because he was the biggest kid? This National Space Policy is that friend, but fatter and with more acne.

I can only imagine where we can go from here. Maybe NASA will discover a fuel source on Mars, but we think the Royal Viceroy of the Intergalactic Martian's Republic is a dick, so we invade the planet, over the protestations of Neptune and The Commonwealth of Jupiter. Space civilian contractors from mega-corporation DisneyHalliburtonBath& Body Works Ltd. will land with the first wave of space marines. Unfortunately, our poorly planned invasion and subsequent occupation of Mars will probably lead to Martian sectarian violence, resulting in countless space marine casualties, and the eventual resignation of disgraced President Frankie Muniz. So my advice to future United Continents of America President Frankie Muniz is this: Heed the lessons learned from the second Gulf War before you send our troops to Mars.

Reflections of an ex-smoker

By STACEY MAYNARD
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

I used to laugh at the ads about people hooked up to oxygen machines trying to tell everyone how bad smoking was. I always figured that it would never be me gasping for a breath. I watched my mother die of lung cancer and other close family members. I had a cousin who was a lot younger than me die of cancer; she had just gotten married and never even got to have children or to really have a life. They all were smokers.

I was a smoker too. I had tried to stop several times this year but did not make it longer than a half a day. My doctor said it was time for me to quit. I just could not do it. I did not want to stop. I enjoyed smoking. I really did, not thinking it was bothering me; at least that is what I kept telling myself.

Last week I woke up with a terrible pain in my chest and upper back. Every time I took a breath it felt as though someone was pushing a knife in me; never mind the pain when I happened to cough. I went to classes and was having a difficult time paying attention with all the pain. As soon as I walked out of class though, I lit up a cigarette as fast as I could get my hands on my pack and lighter. Then I would start coughing and the pain was excruciating.

I had gotten almost to Burke when I lit up my second cigarette. I started hacking and struggling to catch my breath. I really did not think I was going to last another hour. I pulled over to the side of the road. I did not know how I could go on. I looked at my pack of cigarettes and just threw them, along with the lit one, out of my car.

I have stopped successfully for a week now. I am proud of myself. The first night I was miserable, not only was I sick but angry because I had quit smoking. I yelled at my other half and made his night miserable. I blamed him because I wanted a smoke so bad but was determined I would not have another.

I get terrible cravings and I want to give in so much but I think of how I would have to go through the cravings from the beginning again. It is not worth it to me. After I eat I look for a smoke, or when I am driving along I want a smoke. The thought of smoking haunts me all day and night.

I get out of class and see people, especially the young people, smoking and shake my head. They have no clue what is ahead for them. They think they will never struggle to breathe or they can quit at anytime. They have no clue how hard it is to quit. I feel so very sorry for them as I watch them puff away. For that is what they are doing; just puffing away their life. I am glad I do not have to go through what they will eventually have to face. It is behind me now and I watch them puffing on their smokes all over campus. Instead of wanting another smoke I am more resolved never to let myself get hooked on tobacco again. There is so much more to life than to just throw it away.

The glories of leadership

By JOSHUA JAMES GERVAIS
EDITORIAL EDITOR

Academic institutions love the word leadership, but they don't love it when students do any leading. Being college students we all know that what school means when they say leadership, they mean sucking up to make your transcript look good. That's not what I think leadership is. A good leader needs to be able to organize people, direct their efforts, and inspire them—or at least two out of those three things.

It seems pointless for people to come together to practice leadership. While one person is learning to lead the rest are simply learning to follow, and if no one is following then no one is learning to lead at all. Sure, they may be learning to cooperate, but that doesn't sound nearly as prestigious leadership.

LSC lists on its Web site the following leadership opportunities: Lyndon Rescue, Orientation Leaders, Peer Athletic Mentors, PeerNet Guides, Peer Tutors, and Resident Assistants. Of these groups only Resident Assistants are true leaders of any sort, though I think babysitter is a slightly more appropriate term.

Lyndon Rescue is a useful, if not vital, part of the school, but I'm not certain there is any correlation between that usefulness and leadership. I'm sure some of the members of Lyndon Rescue have used it as an opportunity to cultivate their skills as leaders, but that can be said about any organization on campus to some degree. If anything, Lyndon Rescue's work is more important than leadership.

Orientation Leaders enact a service on the school's behalf, but I doubt they have the authority to make any sort of decisions on how to perform that service. In the end all they do is tell disinterested Freshmen a lot of stuff that will be almost immediately forgotten.

There are three groups that start with the word peer since they are intended to be filled with students. Of course, while we are all students, we are not all peers. I am five years older than most of the people I tutor, and while the differences between myself and the people I tutor aren't impassable they are enough to make it hard for me to consider them true peers.

I was asked to be a PeerNet Guide, and as much as the promised letter of recommendation from Carol Moore tempted me to take the offer, it sounded kind of like a waste of time (both mine and the students assigned to me). I believe that help should be offered to those that need it rather than forced on all.

You can get something useful out of any of the above organizations, but it's probably not going to be the buzz word of the day: leadership. There's a reason for that—leadership isn't easy to cultivate; if it were I'd have a lot less to complain about.

Letter Policy:

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Showdown: Phat Kats vs. The Packer

BY CALEB BYERLY
CRITIC STAFF

Every college student knows the routine. Wake up at noon, skip the shower, spray some Febreeze, and then throw some clothes on and then go to class (maybe). After the grueling day of classes are over, however, students ask themselves the same question, "What do you want to do?" Here are the two places most talked about on campus:

Known locally as "The Packer", the Packing House began as a slaughterhouse about 30 years ago, hence the name. It was later renovated into a bar, and a local musician came to play on Wednesday nights. Now, after a handful of owners and two fires, The Packing House continues the Wednesday-night-party tradition and has even added a few perks for anyone 18 years and over.

Open Tuesday through Saturday, The Packing House has 5,000 square feet of space, which they have filled with four pool tables, video games, a dance floor, a full bar and entertainment system. The Packing House holds beer pong tournaments and pool tournaments, as well as drink specials geared especially towards the poor college student.

Beer prices at the Packing House may range from your cheap draft beer, at about $2, to the more expensive beer at $3.50. Mixed drinks are priced based on the type of liquor used, well liquor or top-shelf liquor. For a cheap drink guaranteed to leave you hungover, you can expect to pay at least $3. For a really good drink though, prices jump to a high of $10 (which happens to be Red Bull and Grey Goose vodka).If you end up at the Packing House hungry, fried food in the form of jalapeño poppers, buffalo wings and chicken fingers are available.

During the dance parties hosted on Wednesday and Saturday nights, a cover charge is required at the door. For those 21 and older, the charge is $3. The charge is $5 for anyone younger.

"This is a place where you show up with three or four people and a designated driver," Owner Dan Macek, an LSC 2003 alumnus, said.

Macek talked of some of the difficulties he faced when it came to owning a bar.

When asked about underage drinking, Macek quickly said, "We have absolutely NO tolerance for underage drinking."

"Identity theft is a big deal," Macek said, referring to students trying to buy drinks with fake IDs.

Locally owned and operated since its beginning nearly 30 years ago, Phat Kat's has been through numerous name changes and owners. The current owner, Chad Pilotte, has spent nearly seven years making Phat Kats what it is now, a relaxing spot for locals and students alike to unwind and chat a little.

Open seven days a week, with drink specials every day, Phat Kats appeals to anyone looking for a deal. Two pool tables, a foosball table and live music are enjoyed here, with tournaments happening every week. WWLR the Impulse, LSC's radio station, sometimes

Caleb Byerly, Critic Staff

Kevin Mogerley (left) and Nick Spooner sit at the bar at Phat Kats on a Tuesday Night

covers the live music played here, with bands ranging from genres like reggae, hard rock and even death metal.

Beer prices don't vary much here. The most expensive draft they offer is a $4 glass of Guinness. If you are running low on cash, they also offer a $2 glass of Pabst Blue Ribbon. Mixed drinks also have a pretty tight price range. The cheapest well drinks cost $3.50 and the most expensive drinks will run you a good $5. Watching sports on their 60" wide screen television is made more enjoyable with a beer and a bag of chips. Except for live music, Phat Kat's never asks for a cover charge.

Phat Kat's is also forced to deal with the problem of underage drinking.

"It's a bar, and people are going to try," Pilotte said. "But it's strictly 21 and over here, and we are good at checking IDs."

"This is a nice, local, relaxed, and comfortable environment," Pilotte said.

I noticed a lot of bumper stickers with funny phrases on them. When I asked about them, Pilotte shrugged.

"I found them or people donated them, and whenever I find one, I bring it in," Pilotte said. "It gives the place character."

The Packing House and Phat Kat's both have their positive and negative qualities, but it is not really my intention to boost or bash either place. I only wish to point out my observations at each place.

The Packing House had a nice, almost-urban feel to it, with a friendly staff and loud music. There is always something to do at the Packing House, but due to the music, communication is fairly difficult. The food is good and the beer is fresh. The Packing House is a great place for a party with your friends and a little dancing (if you like hip-hop and reggae).

Phat Kat's is underground, literally, and because of the low ceiling, tall people can sometimes feel a little claustrophobic. The décor is homey and comfortable and talking is much easier there.

For those of you looking to celebrate your 21st birthday, Phat Kat's has you covered in the best way possible (it's a great way to spend your night, but be careful walking up the stairs when you leave).

Tunnel of Oppression receives strong response

BY JESSICA MILLHESIER
CRITIC STAFF

"Drunk!"
"Faggot!"
"Cracker!"

These are only a few of the words heard and seen throughout the Tunnel of Oppression. There were many more racial slurs, sexist remarks, mental disability slanders and photos, that could be witnessed as well.

Last Thursday and Friday, November 2 and 3, the Tunnel of Oppression was created and used to help the LSC community appreciate a hate free atmosphere. "The primary reason for building the tunnel was that it came up in one of our topics of conversation involving INT 1020 as a way to give students an experiential learning opportunity for a hate free community," said Donna Keely, Director of First Year Experience.

Before entering the tunnel, everyone is lined up in front of their tour guide and told to just absorb and respect the information and actions being shown to them while in the tunnel. In, the first scene, a participant comes across a dispute involving social classes clashing.

Next is a scene featuring a person with a reading disability who constantly gets picked on.

After that, there's a scene where a person is openly advertising they are gay to their parents and are shunned for it.

Next comes an area where there are brutal sexist remarks which then leads to an eerie holocaust reenactment of Jewish persons being gassed while waiting to shower.

Then you are lead to a wall with a video being shown with all sorts of oppression, recent and historical, while having to read slang remarks and sayings on the wall.

Finally, you reach the area of hope where students are asked to write down and throw away any hateful things they have ever thought and then sign a pledge for a hate free community.

"I wanted to put them in an uncomfortable position so they could understand it more first hand," said Keely.

"People say things on a daily basis and don't even realize what they're saying or how they're saying what they're saying, effects people," said Joslyn Sykes, peer leader and actor in the tunnel.

"We picked scenes that we thought students could connect to most, things that go on in an every day basis," Keely said. "I hope students are talking about it and thinking about how they can make a hate free community here."

"It definitely made me realize how lucky I am that the events that happened in the Tunnel of Oppression don't happen all that often to me; but at the same time, how sad it is that people actually have to deal with it on a day to day basis," Sykes said.

The tunnel took 14 hours to build over a course of two days, with 325 students attending the event and 64 students involved in acting out the scenes displayed throughout the tunnel.

LSC basketball teams gear up for season

BY ANDREW R. KOCH
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

The LSC Basketball teams started off their season with their alumni games on Saturday.

The Hornets' men's (22-6 last year) and women's (18-10) teams will each be looking to pick up where they left off last year despite suffering crushing losses in their final Sunrise Conference championship games. Both teams have new coaches this year, as well as a mix of new and returning players.

Vincent Maloney has been an assistant coach with the men's team under Eric Berry. This year, he'll finally get his chance to be a head coach following the unexpected retirement this summer of long-time women's head coach David Mellor. Maloney, who is also a counselor in the Admissions Office, is entering his fifth season as a basketball coach at LSC.

"I think I'll bring more youth and energy to the table," Maloney said.

"Dave's retirement was unexpected to everyone," Maloney said about Mellor. "He was a great coach. He was here for ten years, and he did a lot for the program. They went to the national tournament two years ago, and that was a pretty big achievement for them."

Maloney did say that numbers and depth would be an issue, as the team only has eight players. However, those eight players have a lot of desire and talent.

"It's tough running practices and full-court scrimmages. Foul trouble might become an issue, but I think this group of girls can go a long way. They have the ability and the heart to win a lot of games," Maloney said.

Maloney said that even with such a small team, he feels that they can have a successful season. He feels that seventeen to eighteen wins is a very reachable goal. With that said, he expects a smooth transition from the Sunrise Conference to the United States College Athletic Association (USCAA).

"Anytime you have a transition like this, there will be some bumps in the road," Maloney said. "Lyndon State is a solid institution. It's run well, and I think it will do well. I think it will be a smooth transition."

"I think we can run with eight girls," sophomore forward Sara Fetterhoff, said. "But it will be difficult if some get injured or sick. We're a close team; we're going to go out as a team to win."

Fetterhoff also said that the team's main goal is to go to the USCAA National Tournament at the beginning of March in Tulsa, Okla.

"Last year we had to win just the conference games. This year, we need to win every game. The only way to get a bid (to the national tournament) is to have that winning mindset."

Randy Rathburn will move up to the men's head coaching job after Eric Berry decided to take this year off to spend more time with his family. In addition to his coaching duties, Rathburn is also the intramural director, filling in while Sue Henry is on sabbatical this year.

"The biggest challenge this season will be the number of away games versus the number of home games we play. We play 16 road games and only seven home games this season," said Rathburn; he also said that the team is facing some problems with ineligible players, but that's a challenge that can be overcome.

Rathburn also expects a smooth transition into the USCAA. The difference, he says, is the emphasis that will now be put on each game.

"Every game is important now. In the past, we could've won the conference tournament and lost every other game, and we'd go to the (NAIA) national tournament. Now we have to win every game to go to the (USCAA) national tournament."

According to Rathburn, Eric Berry will return as the head coach next year. He had been the head coach for the last five years. Rathburn said he's fine with that plan, even though it would involve returning to his former role as an assistant coach.

Junior forward Mike Paul also expects the Hornets to have a smooth transition into the USCAA, despite the added importance of each game. He did say that one of the biggest challenges facing the team would be getting the guys to gel together.

"I think the biggest challenge will be finding our chemistry and getting into a rhythm quickly. We're all relatively new to each other," Paul said. "I think the season will be fine, as long as we can find our rhythm. We'll be successful if we come out, play hard, and stick together like I know we can," Paul said.

The men's and women's next games are both on Nov. 17. The men will play away in the U.Maine Farmington tournament while the women will be home in the Lady Hornets Tip-Off tournament. Both tournaments are two day events.

Sam Gaddes, Critic Correspondent

Current Hornets faced off against former team members during Saturday's alumni game on November 4.

Top left: Kali Stoddard (#44). Top right: Elizabeth Hall (#15) and Krystal Gould (#21). Bottom left: Krystal Gould (#21) and Jen White (#42). Bottom right: Kali Stoddard (#44).

Chris Ummer, Courtesy Photo

Lynday Calkins, an LSC sophomore, set a national record at the USCAA championship in Late October.

Calkins sets national record at USCAA

JAKE MARDIN
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

Lyndsay Calkins dominated the field in the USCAA National Cross Country Championships in Buena Vista, Virginia, winning by almost two minutes and setting a course and USCAA national meet record.

Calkins also was named a USCAA All-American and USCAA Academic All-American.

Despite a wet, hilly course, Calkins still put on a strong performance to cap off a dominant season for the junior, which saw her win three out of five races. The other two races she finished in the runner-up slot.

Calkin's jumped out to an early lead and pulled away on a steep 400 meter hill. By the time she crossed the finish line in the 6-kilometer race, she had a 1:41 lead over the runner-up to end her day with a time of 24:21.

"Lyndsay closed out her season much the way she started it, with a win and a course and meet record," Coach Christopher Ummer said.

The men's team also ended their season on a high note with a third place team finish.

Sophomore Robert Penney led the way with a 7th place finish on the 8-kilometer course with a time of 29:04. Right behind him was sophomore Jonathan Harty, running a time of 29:05.

Other runners for the men's team were Justin Russo, Jeremiah Powell, Jacob Silverio, Kevin Keiper, and Jonathan Cunningham.

With his performance, Penney was named a USCAA All-American. Earning USCAA Academic All-American status were Cunningham and sophomore Hayley Joseph.

Senior soccer captains reflect on past four years

BY ANDREW KOCH
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

Forwards Curtis Colby and Captain Isaac "Ike" Fortin saw their long soccer careers come to an end last weekend at Green Mountain College.

Both seniors have been playing soccer since they were in second grade, including all four years here at LSC.

"We all just wanted to get a bid to Michigan, to the national tournament," Colby said. That trip won't happen as the team struggled in their first transition season out of the Sunrise Conference. Heading into their regular season finale, the team had a record of only 5-10-1. However, Colby and Fortin did say that there were some bright spots from the team this season.

"We gelled together more as the season went on," Colby said.

"Our goal this season was to put the best eleven players on the field every game. I think we did that, save for some injuries," Fortin said. "Twenty-nine guys tried out this year. Some pretty good players got cut in camp."

Fortin said that there weren't any teams in particular that made for tough competition for the team this season.

"We go into every game thinking it's going to be equally difficult," Fortin said. "You play the same way to win; you have to play hard."

Colby, on the other hand, did mention one opponent in particular that was especially tough for the team.

"We played St. Mike's our first game. If we could've won that game, I think that would've made a big difference in us going to nationals," Colby said.

Fortin and Colby both said they will take away fond memories of playing soccer here at LSC.

"I liked all four years. It was fun to see new faces and new talent, seeing a new group of guys every year,"Fortin said.

Colby said one of his fondest memories was winning the Sunrise Conference championship game last year, followed by the bus trip to the NAIA regional tournament in Pennsylvania.

"We won the conference championship on the road last year (in Fort Kent, Maine), with six inches of snow on the field," Colby said. "We then went to the regional tourney in Pennsylvania. We spent 30 hours on the bus that weekend."

Curtis Colby, Photo

Issac Fortin (Left) and Curtis Colby pose after a game. Both were this year's senior captains and have played soccer at LSC for the past four years.

Facebook and student athletes

BY KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
MANAGING EDITOR

Pictures student athletes post on the Internet can come back to haunt them if their behavior is called into question.

"We don't go out and look for violations on Facebook," Jonathan Davis, director of student life, said. Davis was referring to regular judicial hearings but Christopher Ummer, director of athletics and Randy Rathburn, intramural director and men's basketball coach, share a similar viewpoint when it comes to using Facebook as a tool.

"I don't go looking for stuff, but if I hear something from someone, I'll check it out," Rathburn said.

Logging onto Facebook or Myspace to find pictures of student athletes breaking rules set by coaches would simply take up too much time, Ummer said.

Facebook and Myspace are only used as a tool to bring evidence to an already existing case. Facebook is not used to create charges, Davis said.

Different coaches hold their athletes to different standards; some coaches have students sign behavior contracts while others rely on the nature of their sport to help student athletes make good decisions, Ummer said.

The NCAA is now requiring LSC's student athletes to follow certain rules which will be outlined to students and coaches in the coming weeks, Ummer said.

A speaker from the NCAA also made it clear in a speech that student athletes should be more responsible about what they post on Facebook and Myspace, Rathburn said. Since the speaker, Rathburn feels that the message has gotten though. Athletes at LSC are being more careful about what they post pictures of themselves doing on the Internet, Rathburn said.

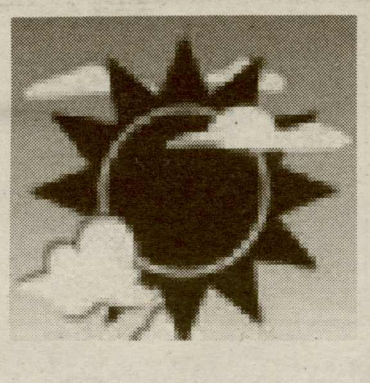
Fun Page

Sudoku

6	8					9		2
	9	4						
		2	5	9	6	8	4	
	6			3				
2	4	9						
		8		1				
	7	3	1	2	8	6		
						3	1	
8		1					2	4

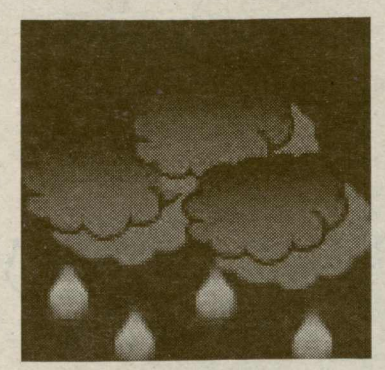
LSC Northeast Kingdom Forecast
Student Meteorologist
Andrew Little

A low-pressure system from the west, associated with a cold front, will produce a few scattered rain showers and strong wind gusts for Thursday night. However, this weekend, another storm system from the midwest, will produce widespread rainfall for the Northeast kingdom and keep temperatures seasonably warm, in the mid to upper 40's.



Friday (Nov 10, 2006)
Mostly cloudy with a few peaks of sunshine in the afternoon. Winds from the Northwest 10-15 MPH with gusts up to 25 MPH

Saturday (Nov 11, 2006)
Rain developing early in the morning. Winds from the south 5-10 mph. Rainfall amounts between a tenth and a quarter of an inch.



Sunday (Nov 12, 2006
Rain persisting throughout the evening with winds from the southwest, becoming westerly. New rain fall amounts between half and three quarters of an inch.

For the most up-to-date weather reports at: *apollo.lsc.vsc.edu/forecast*

Horoscopes

SCORPIO (OCT 23-NOV 21) Flirt with some new ideas. You never know what may come out of this. Don't restrict yourself too much and have fun with your new sense of confidence.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV 22-DEC 21) Don't be so critical of yourself. We all have imperfections, so love what you have and be proud of who you are.

CAPRICORN (DEC 22-JAN 19) Spend some time doing things for yourself. You are spending too much time trying to please others. You are only hurting yourself in the long run.

AQUARIUS (JAN 20-FEB 18) Make some advances in your personal life to make your days more lively. Invite someone you care about out to lunch or to a movie. You never know that person may like you in return.

PISCES (FEB 19-MAR 20) Your temper is starting to get the best of you and those around you are having a difficult time trying to communicate with you. Slow things down and realize who is important in your life.

ARIES (MAR 21-APR 19) Stop being such a prude. It's time that you lightened up and had some fun. You are only young once so enjoy it while you can. Next time your friends ask you to go out dancing, it shouldn't take more than five seconds to answer with a yes.

TAURUS (APR 20-MAY 20) Expect the unexpected. Try not to plan out your every move. Things happen for a reason and take each experience as it comes.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUN 21) Give back to those less fortunate. Even if it's something small, that person will surely appreciate your kindness and remember your good deed.

CANCER (JUN 22-JUL 22) It's about time that you forgive that person for what they did. You can't change the past and it's time to move ahead and be the bigger person.

LEO (JUL 23-AUG 22) You have a tendency of getting jealous over others, and reacting harshly to certain situations. No one likes a jealous person, so unless you want to be alone the rest of your life, you should stop.

VIRGO (AUG 23-SEPT 22) Someone special will return to your life, but be cautious. Things are never the same the second time around, so enter the situation with ease so no one on either party will end up getting hurt.

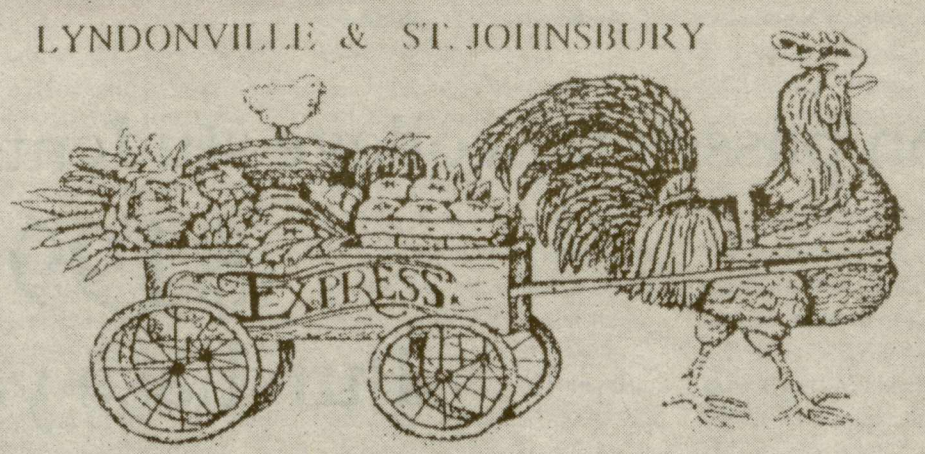
LIBRA (SEPT 23-OCT 22) You are an attractive person but others are turned off by your egotism. Realize that the way you are presenting yourself is affecting others.

Winter Word Search

H	O	T	C	O	C	O	A	S	M	O	N	I	T	S
Y	W	W	U	F	Y	I	S	K	C	O	S	E	O	T
N	R	A	N	I	N	Y	S	E	X	N	Z	A	N	J
S	W	E	S	R	Q	T	N	A	A	K	C	L	S	D
B	A	T	V	E	J	T	O	T	G	S	Y	Y	N	B
V	I	A	M	A	E	D	W	S	R	A	I	B	E	X
F	O	H	T	K	L	I	P	H	X	M	O	V	T	Y
W	R	Y	C	A	N	S	A	I	P	I	G	V	T	V
D	Q	A	A	T	M	A	N	R	K	K	T	Y	R	I
Q	J	B	A	G	E	A	T	T	C	S	Q	E	M	S
Y	P	G	T	V	E	E	S	Y	A	D	T	L	O	H
O	W	L	I	F	D	X	M	I	U	A	K	X	Z	K
S	M	O	R	E	S	N	I	B	E	O	L	L	E	A
Y	A	J	U	N	U	H	R	W	S	L	S	O	K	L
N	Q	S	T	O	O	B	S	P	I	F	R	A	C	S

Keep warm this winter with the following items!

Boots
Fire
Gloves
Hat
Hot Cocoa
Jacket
Mittens
Scarf
Ski-mask
Smores
Snowpants
Sweater
Sweatshirt
Toe-socks

THE WHITE MARKET
LYNDONVILLE & ST. JOHNSBURY
626 748
539 599


GROCERIES - MEATS - PRODUCE - DELICATESSEN

You could be staring at white...

...or you could be carving it.

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Season passes for college students are on sale now for only

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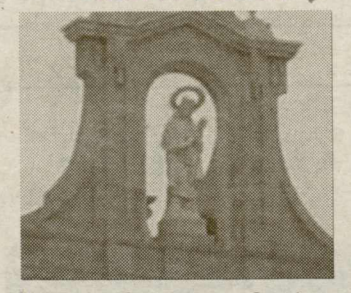
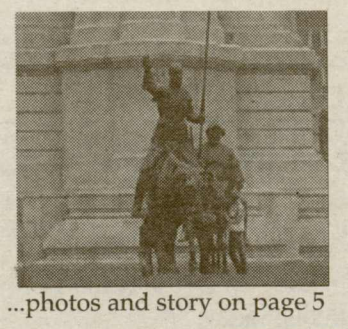


LSC students visit Spain...

THE CRITIC

Serving the student voice of the Northeast Kingdom



...photos and story on page 5

FREE

Lyndonville, Vermont | Friday, December 1, 2006 | Volume 53, Number 7

INSIDE

TWILIGHT PLAYERS TO GRACE LSC STAGE

The Twilight Players theater club will present an offbeat set of one-act comedies written by American playwright John Guare tonight at 8:00 p.m, Saturday at 8:00 p.m., and Sunday at 2:00 p.m in the Alexander Twilight Theater free of charge.

Pg 2

LSC 'LEADERS' RECOGNIZED

In the college world of education there are two separate yet equally important elements to one's education.

Pg 4

OPINIONS

PUBLIC SAFETY GOES BEYOND 911

As far as I know, the phone number 911 was created to make the system of public safety more effective. It's a shame that instead it's being treated as an alternate way of reaching law enforcement, essentially eliminating the original purpose of having a police station.

Pg 3

Petition calls for President's impeachment

By ROBERT RUMRILL
CRITIC STAFF

Student Government Association Vice President Chris Ferguson has written a petition to impeach student body president Lars Christensen.

The list of complaints against Christensen mostly deal with the inability to properly and professionally communicate with the rest of the SGA as well as violating some obligations that are stated within the SGA constitution.

Christensen described the complaints as "Petty personal attacks."

"Obviously it is not something that I would hope for," Christensen said. "I think all of these claims reflect on the fact that I run the SGA differently."

The majority of complaints had to do with Christensen's communication skills:

"Members do not receive information in a timely manner."

"Often times the information is inaccurate."

"When faculty members contact him, Mr. Christensen does not follow up with them."

Christensen said that it is not his duty to relay information to the rest of the SGA but the responsibility of the secretary.

The petition also claims that Christensen lets personal interests get in the way of his duties within the SGA as well as that he has poor hygiene.

Tabitha Fitzgerald, Critic Staff

SGA President Lars Christensen has been under intense scrutiny by his next-in-charge Chris Ferguson in recent weeks.

According to the petition "Mr. Christensen's presentation of himself and his hygiene while meeting with faculty has caused the administration members to ask Senators if all students on campus act that way."

Christensen defended his hygiene by saying that he does "Not know what [Ferguson] is referring to but it could possibly be an isolated incident. All the things that are stated seem more like petty personal attacks that do not adversely affect the SGA," Christensen said.

> *"All the things that are stated seem more like petty personal attacks that do not adversely affect the SGA."*
>
> **-SGA President Lars Christensen on VP Ferguson's hygiene comments**

Christensen disregarded the claims that he lets his personal life interfere with his duty as student body president.

"The students are my personal life," Christensen said. "[I am] a regular student who also has to deal with academics. The SGA runs effectively and we are not doing anything that hurts the student body."

If the petition collects 10 percent of the student body's votes, 146 signatures, then the petition will be sent to the Board of Elections who will verify the validity of the petition as well as each of the signatures. Once this has been completed the impeachment process will take place, possibly leading to the dismissal of Christensen as SGA president.

Disease found in deer making work difficult for Vermont ranchers

By JOSHUA DAMASO
CRITIC STAFF

State restrictions pertaining to Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) have forced at least one local deer rancher to end his involvement in the venison business.

"The reason I got out of it was they closed the borders," said Martin Guay, former owner of Maple Ridge Farm in Groton. "They were making it so hard to get animals."

Chronic Wasting Disease was first discovered in 1967 in a deer by a research group in Colorado. CWD is similar to Mad Cow Disease in that it leads to severe weight loss and eventual death in deer, moose, and elk that contract it.

The disease is believed to be caused by a prion; an abnormally folded protein that is typically found in the central nervous system of infected animals. It can be found in brain tissue, eyes, or muscles inside infected deer, moose, or elk. Unlike Mad Cow Disease, it seems that CWD does not affect humans who eat the meat of an infected animal. However, since there is so little known about how CWD is contracted, no one knows for sure whether it can have long term effects on people who ingest contaminated meat. Some recent studies have suggested, though nothing has been confirmed, that CWD could possibly be contracted through blood or saliva contact with an infected animal.

Originally, CWD was only found in western states on deer farms and in wild herds. Since that time it has gradually moved east through several mid-western states. Then, in 2002, it was found for the first time in upstate New York.

Because there is so little known about how the disease spreads, many states – including Vermont – have taken several steps to limit the possibility of it penetrating their borders.

New York, aside from restricting the importation of live deer and elk, has restricted feeding wild deer, importing certain animal parts, the liberation of various types of deer and elk, and transporting carcasses across the state.

In Wisconsin there was a $27 million effort to bring the numbers of infected deer and elk down. Three years later, an audit found that deer containing CWD had actually increased from 26 deer per square mile to 38.

Presently, CWD has been found in a total of 14 states and many states are worried that if the disease isn't controlled before it hits their border it may never be able to be controlled at all. For Vermont, while restrictions are not as tough as they are in other states, regulations on imports may only be the sound of the first shoe dropping. For some deer farmers like Guay, present and possible future restrictions could mean sacrificing years of work put into their farm.

"I had some pretty good stock and I wanted to get a new bloodline. But I decided it was just time to quit," he said. "I believe that the sooner the disease gets here the better. I think that would make them relax on the issue."

CAMPUS SNAPSHOT

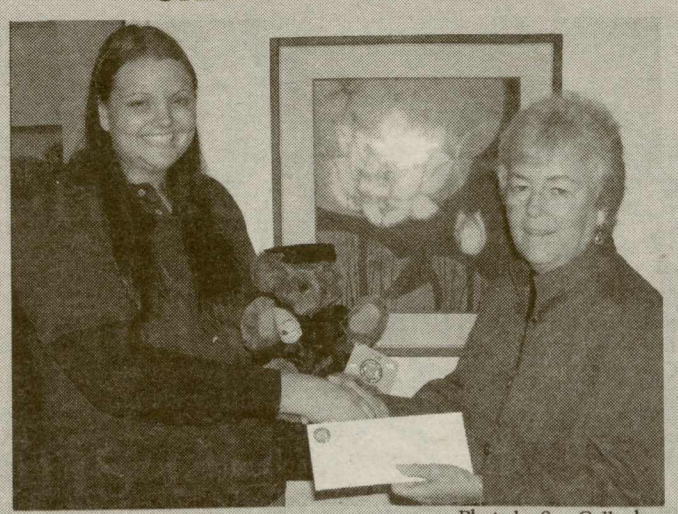


Photo by Sue Gallagher

Jillian Hall, an LSC senior, receives the Vermont Student Citizen Award from President Carol Moore last month.

News Briefs

A reminder about winter parking for LSC students from Public Saefty:

No overnight parking in the Vail lot or the overflow to Vail lot which is commonly referred to as the Faculty/Staff lot. On school maps these are coded as lots "D" and "E".

Do not park on areas that are striped or on grassy areas that have been plowed. Maintenance has assured me that you will be able to see the striping but I would suggest that you become familiar with these areas now. This is particularly important in the Wheelock lot which must have enough room for a large fuel truck.

If you are staying over the breaks please make sure you have permission from your RHD and that you follow the rules that they will give you about where to park. Bottom line: if you are staying over during the break (any break) parking will be restricted to Stonehenge and Rita Bole lots and you will be required to all park in the same area so the plows can remove as much snow as possible.

No parking on interior of campus, this includes the area by News 7. You will at the very least receive a ticket and most likely will be towed.

The St. J. Food Co-op continues the free First Fridays: Health and Wellness Series on Friday December 1, 2006 from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. at the co-op located at 490 Portland St., St. Johnsbury Vermont.

The co-op welcomes Flower Nicole, an Earth Medicine Healer and Naturalist. Flower has studied many of the aspects of spiritual and physical therapeutic health for over twenty years. Her most influential teacher was a Native American Medicine Woman, who opened her heart to the wisdom of the Earth. During Flower's time with the Medicine Woman she attained profound teachings of the plant world, a deep spiritual connection with Nature and learned the art of making Earth medicine.

Upcoming dates and participants include:

January 5: Susan Blackstone, Reflexology. February 2: Andrea Thibedeau, Yoga

All events in the First Friday series take place at the St. J. Food Co-op on the first Friday of each month. All events are free for the community. Event hours are 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Twilight Players present series of one acts

By MARY WHEELER
EDITOR

The Twilight Players theater club will present an offbeat set of one-act comedies written by American playwright John Guare tonight at 8:00 p.m, Saturday at 8:00 p.m., and Sunday at 2:00 p.m in the Alexander Twilight Theater free of charge.

"All the one-acts are really quirky," Johnathan Flom, director and Professor of Theater at LSC said. "I've known these works for awhile and have even directed two of them before. There are so many parts which allowed for many students to be involved without having to make a huge time commitment."

The first play, titled Loveliest Afternoon of the Year, features a male and a female who meet in Central Park, New York. Their relationship begins as rather mistrusting, however it quickly transforms into a deep love as the two continue to meet in the park.

New York Actor, the second in the sequence, shows a group of friends gathering at a Broadway restaurant to celebrate being the greatest thing anyone could be, a New York actor.

The final one-act, Home Fries, a comical farce, depicts a family mourning the loss of its matron with a sequence of strange events leading up to an even stranger ending.

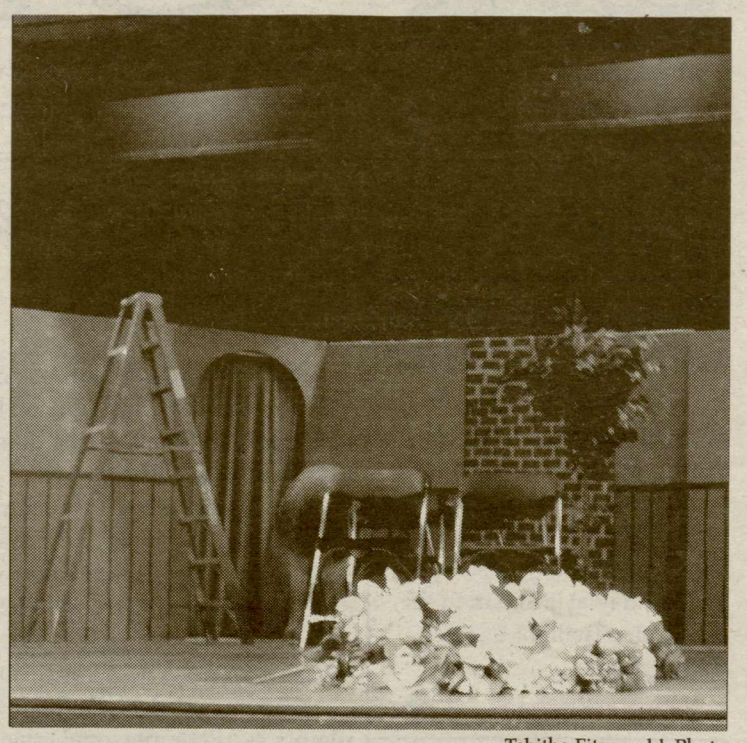
Unlike most Twilight productions, rehearsals for the one acts didn't begin until the end of October, and students were expected to have all their lines memorized by the first rehearsal. Like in past years, auditions were open to students and community members, however the majority of the cast is students.

Flom hopes to keep the Twilight Players club separate from the theater classes that he teaches as in past years students could gain class credit for being in the performances, but still plans on not charging an admission for the performances.

Throughout the process, Flom said that he has been able to meet a lot of new students, and he hopes more will continue to participate in the theater program at LSC.

It will be a short rest for the Twilight Players as they will be performing Cabaret, the Kander and Ebb musical based on a Berlin nightclub at the rise of the Third Reich, for the spring show. Flom is offering a workshop on December 9th from 12-3 p.m. to help better prepare students for the challenging roles, give some tips on the overall audition process, and how to choose an audition piece.

"I wanted to let the club decide on the spring play," Flom said. "Most of my experience is in musical theater, and Cabaret is an intelligent and artistic show which will work well with this group."



Tabitha Fitzgerald, Photo

The Twilight Players will present three one act plays this weekend. The set was constructed and completed by students and faculty members.

Handicap accessibility an issue on campus

By KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
MANAGING EDITOR

There is no elevator leading up to the second floor classrooms in the ACT, making it difficult or impossible for people with physical disabilities to access it.

Putting in an elevator will cost $476,267, Jim Gallagher, Director of the Physical Plant, said. By the time LSC gets the funding from the state, the bill will have climbed to half a million dollars due to inflation, Gallagher said. Gallagher gave a lose estimate that it would be three of four years before LSC had the money to put an elevator in ACT.

Darlene Bolduc-Ballou, director of broadcast operations, has seen many people come through ACT looking to design the elevator. "I think that the intention is there, it's just a financial matter," Ballou said.

The project's designs were completed to years ago by a company out of Burlington. The idea is to install the shaft on the outside of the building, cutting into the lobbies on the first and second floor. The project could be started today if LSC had the funding. "If we don't get funding, it doesn't happen," Gallagher said.

Lack of elevators doesn't prevent disabled students from getting to class. If a student is unable to climb the stairs for whatever reason, arrangements can be made though Mary Etter, a learning specialist who works with the Services for Students with Disabilities.

Moving the classrooms makes it so LSC is complying with laws pertaining to handicap accessibility. "It's legal, but it's not the way we'd like it," Gallagher said.

Public safety buildings should stay open to the public

By JOSHUA DAMASO
CRITIC STAFF

Imagine this scenario.

You are in downtown Lyndonville, it's just past 1 p.m. in the afternoon and you are strolling around town with a friend checking out stores. While the two of you are walking you come upon a crosswalk. You look both ways, cross the street, and in the blink of an eye someone comes buzzing around the corner and hits your friend. Like many others on a tight budget neither of you own a cell phone. What would you do?

Hopefully you didn't think about running down to the police station for help, because more than likely, no one will be home. Closed doors and empty parking lots are all that numerous people have gotten when they've visited the building, even in the middle of the day.

While I was working on a story about the recent murder/suicide in Lyndonville, I found that I was having a hard time meeting someone, or anyone, at the police station.

I began to wonder why – of all times - just three days after such an unfortunate event there was not a single person at the police station. This was not the first time I had gone to the police station and felt like I was knocking on a priest's door on a Sunday morning.

As my curiosity and frustration mounted, I decided to visit Lyndonville's Municipal Building, which also happened to be the very site of the murder/suicide.

When I parked my car within the confines of the crime scene, I decided to try and find information about why the police station always seemed to be closed.

Upon entering, I asked a woman in the cashier's office who I could talk to about the questions I had in mind. She directed me to Town Administrator Arthur Sanborn's office.

When I walked into Administrator Sanborn's office I introduced myself to him and another man who didn't want to release his name. They greeted me kindly and acknowledged that they were willing to answer questions I may have.

"I was wondering if I could get information about the murder/suicide that happened behind this building?" I asked.

"I have no comment on that," Sanborn said immediatey.

Ok, dead end. I then asked my second question.

"I was also wondering why there's never anyone at the police station, like in the middle of the day?"

After a few seconds of silence, Administrator Sanborn answered *that* question.

"Voters don't want it," he said. "Voters haven't approved a larger police department."

Administrator Sanborn then said that voters feel the police station works well just the way it is, and that a larger police staff isn't needed. I wanted to remind him that I wasn't asking why there isn't a larger police staff in Lyndonville; I was wondering why there isn't just one front desk employee available to keep a public safety building open to the public in the middle of the afternoon.

I understand that the town's dispatch system works through the St. Johnsbury Police Department, which means Lyndonville doesn't need a dispatcher, but does that mean Lyndonville should feel good about always locking its police department's doors? Is that exploring every possibility to keep the public safe?

As far as I know, the phone number 911 was created to make the system of public safety more effective. It's a shame that instead it's being treated as an alternate way of reaching law enforcement, essentially eliminating the original purpose of having a police station.

I also understand how busy our full time officers get; this editorial is in no way meant to question their work or the way they handle their time. The police station and its two full time officers do an outstanding job – especially for a college town.

The problem is when they're busy, why isn't there at least one person available to keep the public building open?

The town of Lyndonville houses just a smidge over 1200 people and double that amount when college is in session. Just because there's a three-digit phone number available doesn't mean there is no need for a person's presence at the central police and public safety building.

As I prepared to leave the murder/suicide scene, I considered multiple reasons as to why the station remains closed so often: budgeting, voters, town size, and so on. I realized that maybe the town is really just too small and it can't afford to dish out another $25,000 a year for someone to watch over the building.

As soon as those thoughts crept into my head, I walked by the cashier's office again. The cashier's office is a place where you can do things like pay your water and waste bills, electricity bills, taxes, get dog licenses, renew your vehicle registrations, and so on. In other words, the cashier's office is a collection spot for a lot of the town's money.

Out of curiosity, I asked one of the *two* available cashiers what the cashier's office's hours were.

"They're 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.," one of the ladies said.

"Five days a week?" I asked.

"Five days a week," she said.

Now if only there were a three-didget phone number you could call to pay your taxes - maybe then the town could save money on a municipal building.

Canada is a great place to have some fun, but don't abuse it

There can be serious consequences for people who decide to get too rowdy

By ROBERT RUMRILL
CRITIC STAFF

Some people have the idea stuck in their heads that Canada is some sort of utopia made for pot smokers and under-age drinkers.

While some Canadian laws differ from the (sometimes ridiculous) American view point on drugs and alcohol, the two countries have similar legal standings.

We all know about the Canadian drinking age being 18 and all of us have, or damn well should have, gone up to Montreal, Quebec for a night of binge drinking when we were under 21.

Sure it's fun acting a fool at the bar, or getting kicked out of a St. Catherine's Street strip club after a poorly planned argument with a bouncer over the price of a lap dance, but just remember that laws still apply in this not-so-foreign land.

Like the U.S., if you are driving around Canada with a blood alcohol content of .08 or higher, you are still considered too drunk to drive. First offense is an automatic year suspension, and yes, you will also get suspended in the United States.

Be grateful our near neighbor from the north is not Nova Scotia, where you can be arrested if you are pulled over and you blow a mere .04.

Another trend in Quebec that has captivated the U.S. twenty-somethings is the abundance of smoke shops; a place where you can sit around and smoke a hookah with your friends. Many American's are mystified by this relaxed social gathering.

While it is still illegal to possess marijuana in Canada, personally I have walked passed these shops and it has not exactly smelled like they were smoking tobacco. The Canadian government claims that 15 grams or less, or a half-ounce for you potheads who are trying to convert to standard form, results in a penalty no worse then a speeding ticket ($150 Canadian).

While that seems relatively nice compared to the book that gets thrown at you in the U.S.; Quebec folk don't take kindly to drug-dealers. Get caught selling drugs in Quebec and you still risk penalties including life imprisonment.

On the surface, Canada has the potential to be a substance abuser's wet dream, but it still can have pretty harsh penalties for those of us who step out of line. I am not advocating going to Canada if you are under 21 and getting wasted.

So if you' re bored one weekend and you happen to find a few hundred dollars on the ground outside of the dining hall, consider making the trip up to Quebec. It's a pretty 'lax environment for all you under-agers who just want a stiff drink and of course for all of you that want to know what it is like to smoke a joint in an "almost-legal" environment.

While it might seem like a completely different world, just remember that even a Mountie will bust you for being an idiot.

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Letters Policy

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Letters:

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LSC Box 7951
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Field work leads to recognition for LSC students

BY DEREK PALMIERI
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

In the college world of education there are two separate yet equally important elements to one's education. One is the studying from books and learning the theories brought up in class. The second part is the practical application, going out there and trying to put the theories into practice.

The mixing of these two fundamentals is exactly what Patricia Shine, assistant professor of Human Services at LSC, is trying to do with her field work students.

"My overall hope is to have the students put the theories into practice and more importantly get a taste for the work and see if it is a good fit for that particular student," Shine said.

The requirement of field work for students studying in this department had been in place for a long time, but there have been alterations to it over the years.

"Teachers put there own stamp on it from class to class. With me I want to see jobs that will provide the students with good support and mentorship," Shine said.

The field work is required for both human service majors and psychology majors. There is a real diversity in the kind of jobs the students can be found in, such as Northeast Kingdom Hospital, working with the elderly, after school programs, Parent Children Centers, working with the department of correction, and even the Vermont State Police. There is one other point that Shine makes about the program.

"The students are not unpaid laborers. There needs to be an exchange between good jobs and good work that they students will give in return," Shine said.

With that idea in mind Shine works most diligently to find places that the students will like to work. The problem is that sometimes the students take a long time in deciding what they want to do and then the ability to get the job they were hoping for becomes less likely.

"Timing is tough which is why it's important for the students to come to me early so we can place them where they would like. I make it a point to not put any student in a location in which they are uncomfortable," Shine said.

The Critic was able to sit down with one of the field work students Nathan Rossetti a junior human services major at LSC.

"It took me sometime to find something that I was interested in. I was also nervous before starting the job but now it is simply part of my routine," Rossetti said.

Rossetti did find a job that interested him working right here on the LSC campus for the Office of Student Life, Rossetti said it was the place for him because it "helps me and helps LSC."

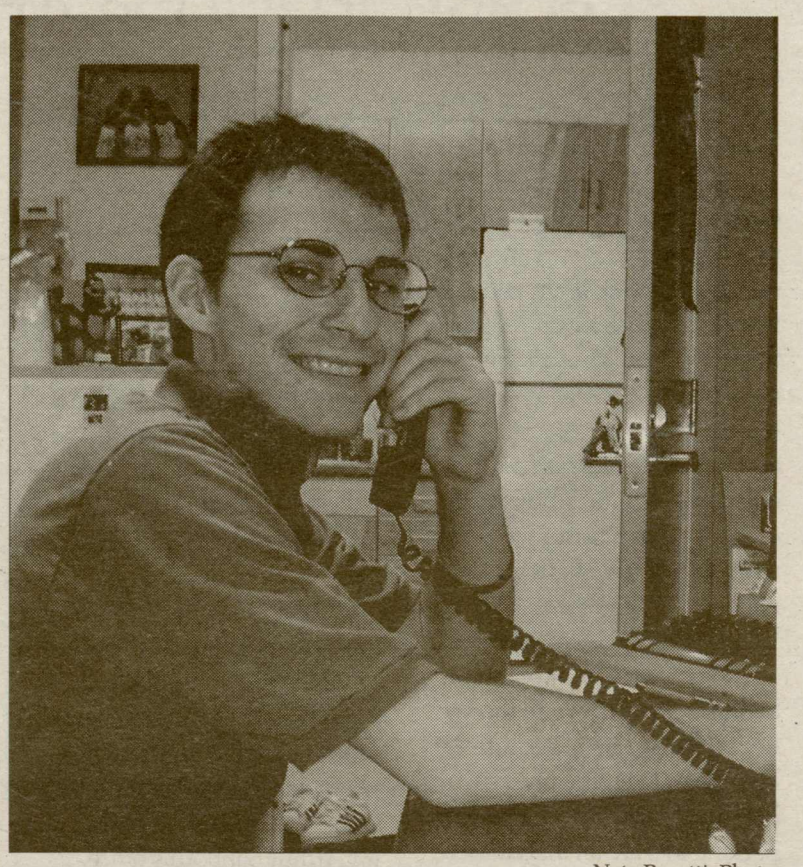
Rossetti has been in the office since the first week of the spring semester working on Mondays and Wednesdays. Rossetti takes a lot of pride in his work here at LSC.

"My field work is very different from other students' work. I have been working on a Student Recognition Program which was an older program here at LSC and I'm now working to update it,"Rossetti said.

The overview of the program is that it will be run like a club with elected officers and these members will look for students that are deserving of recognition and who are showing examples of leadership. The goal is to catch students excelling and write up a CARE report.

"A student is caught doing a good deed at LSC and a report titled, catch a resident excelling or CARE report is filled out and submitted to the members of the club for processing," Rossetti said.

Their "punishment" for doing a good deed and having a CARE report filed range from awards and community cash to a dinner at the end of the year in recognition of the student's achievements.



Nate Rosetti, Photo

Nate Rosetti, an LSC junior, Human Services major, works in one of the student life offices for his field work.

'Tis the season for students to be stressed

By ELIZABETH STRAUSS
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

For most students this is the time for exams and preparing to go home for the winter break. For many non-traditional students with children, families and other commitments, it means much more.

Natalie Perrault, a 31 year old senior and human services major from Newport is familiar with the usual stress that comes with the end of the semester.

This is her last semester at LSC. She already has a job, but that depends on her graduating in December.

As if the stress of exams and end of semester projects piling up wasn't enough, Perrault has two little girls at home. With Christmas coming that means expectations to give gifts. Her 6-year-old has asked for a digital camera.

Linda Wacholder of LSC's Career Services Office knows the stressors that students with families are under. Financial resources can be an issue.

She acknowledges that many students have made sacrifices in going to school and may have feelings of guilt.

"Recognize that you are not alone," is the advice Wacholder has for students under additional stress this time of year. "You don't have to be a super man or super woman, asking for help is not a reflection of inadequacies. At Lyndon, people can go to the brown house, academic support and reach out to different staff."

Heather Gandin, 33 of Groton is a second semester sophomore with a 40 minute drive to and from school, "which stinks for one class."

Gandin, also the mother of two young children is able to spend a few mornings a week with her three year old son, who looks forward to "Mommy and Chase day." It helps that her five year old daughter thinks it's "cool" that they are in school at the same time.

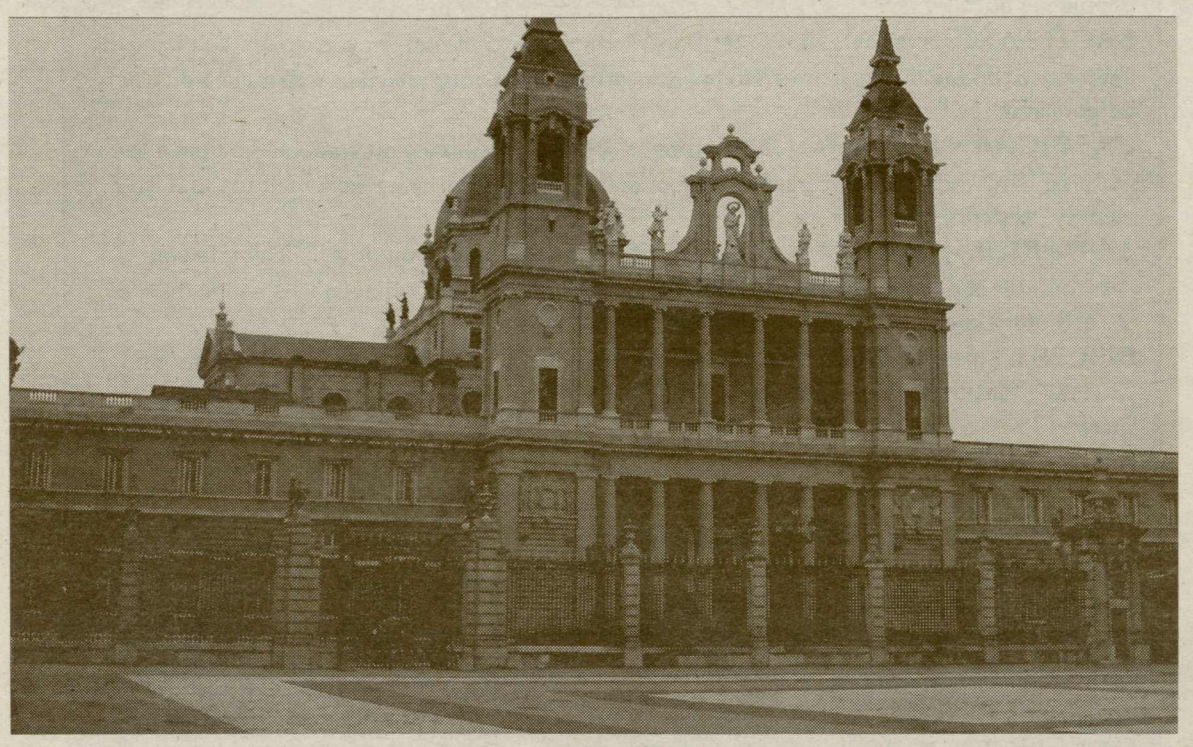
Working two part time jobs, going to school and parenting leaves little time for holiday shopping. Gandin says she has done a lot more shopping online this year. "It's worth the extra shipping to have time with family," she said.

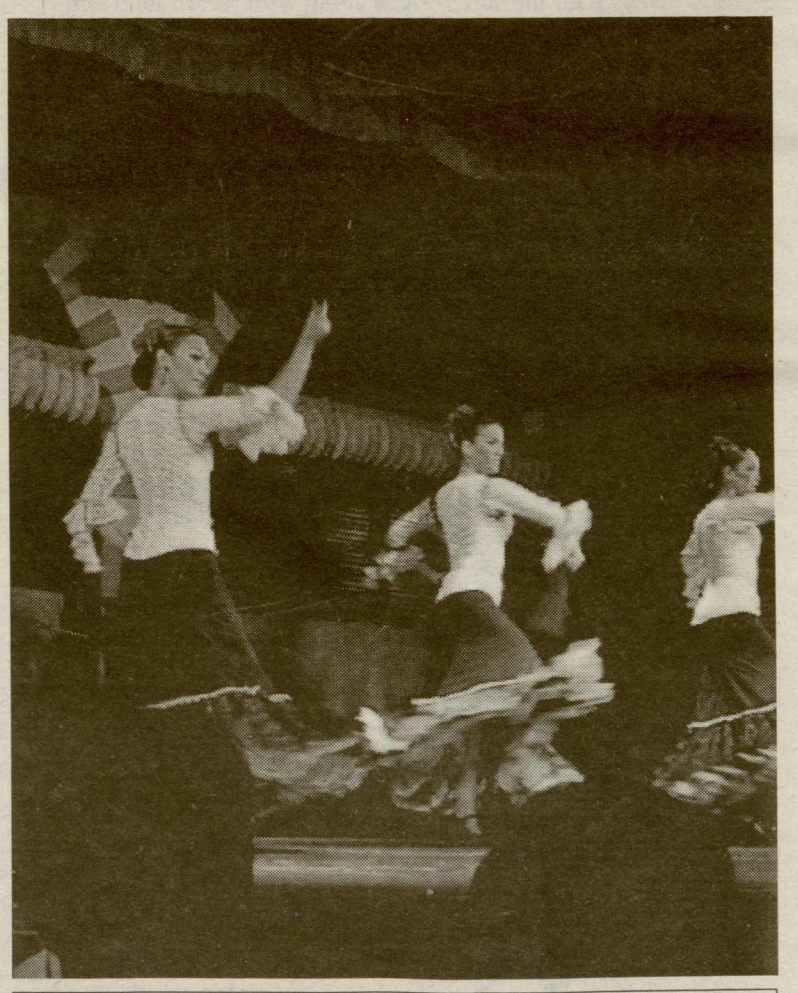
"The umbrella of everything is time," Wacholder said. Expectations of family and the requirements of school as the semester comes to a close is difficult. But "the isolation and feeling you are alone intensifies the stress. If you don't acknowledge, you just make it worse."

There is a non-traditional student section set up on the bulletin board site with discussion board and resources to assist students in getting through the end of the semester.

Welcome to Espana!!!

Professor Alexandre Strokanov led students and faculty to Spain over Thanksgiving Break





By JESSICA MILLHISER
CRITIC STAFF

Derrick Blanton, one of the 30 members that attended the trip to Spain over Thanksgiving break, thoroughly enjoyed the sightseeing, the scenery and the free time.

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times…but in the end, a 16 year old got faced and I was named the king of Spain," Blanton said.

Landing in Madrid after 16 hours of travel time mixed with extreme jet lag, our gang had no time to rest or shower before being shuffled by our Spanish tour guide Laura, to the Prado, a world famous museum of art.

The museum held many beautiful paintings, many of which depicted different variations of Christ and his crucifixion.

After heading to our hotel, washing up, and eating, we had our first night free in Madrid, though many of us went to bed early due to exhaustion.

Day two arrived all too early with a 7:30am wake up call for breakfast. We toured Madrid by bus and went to the Imperial Palace. It was huge and beautiful; full of paintings, statues and extravagant tapestries.

Afterwards we took a short trip to Toledo, which embodied how Spain was pictured by most of the folks on the trip. It had cobblestone streets, houses made of concrete and colored tope, small alleyways and flowers and vines hanging off of the balcony windows.

We toured the Church of Toledo which had extremely detailed architecture, stained glass windows and statues. We also went to a small church that held the original "greatest painting in the world," The Burial of the Count of Orgaz, by El Greco, according to our tour guide Carlos.

On day three we took a 6 hour bus ride to southern Spain to visit Cordoba and Seville. The scenery was beautiful, full of rolling green hills and lots and lots of olive tree fields. Spain is well known for its production of olives, and we saw why; they are everywhere.

Cordoba should be renamed the White City. Nearly all of its buildings were white. It was quite beautiful, and they had orange trees lining the streets. We could stand outside our hotel window and pick an orange right off of the tree.

Day four arrived and we traveled to Seville. This city was gorgeous. It was smaller than Madrid, and a bit less touristy and chaotic.

Our tour guide, Pablo, met us and we went to another palace. We walked around its courtyard where it had a water fountain in the middle and several horse-drawn carriages waiting for customers.

Day five was again spent in Seville and we visited a beautiful synagogue that had an enormous tower, which we later climbed to the top of. From the peak, there was a view that encompassed the entire city.

On our last day in Spain we took a high speed train back to Madrid and spent the entire day shopping, eating and sightseeing by ourselves. We returned home in time for Thanksgiving dinner the following day.

"Spain was great, I loved it," Roz Bidad said. "Mingling with the natives on the streets was my favorite part."

Above: Cathedral at the Royal Palace in Madrid. Top Right: Hillside in Toledo. Middle: Flamenco dancers perform in Seville. Bottom Right: Miguel de Cervantes Memorial site. Bottom Middle: Seville from the top of the cathedral tower.

Photos taken by Zach Durlin and Amanda Winter.

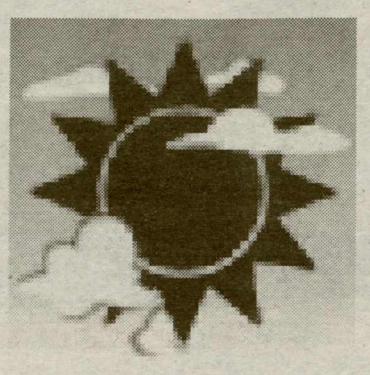
Sudoku

5			6	4	7		3	
		7	3				8	
		1						4
	8		2	1		4	5	
6	5	2				1	7	3
	1	4		7	3		2	
3						5		
	2				5	6		
	7		9	6	4			2

LSC Northeast Kingdom Forecast
Student Meteorologist
Alex Daly

A lingering warm front that has kept the region looking dreary the past few days will finally push off to our Northeast. Skies will become mostly cloudy giving the chance for the sun to shine along with record high temperatures into the lower 60's. Rain will devolop into Friday along with gusty Southerly winds. Rain will change over to snow late on Friday as a cold front makes its way through with much colder temperatures, dipping into the upper 20's overnight on Friday and even down into the teens for Saturday evening.

Friday
Partial Rain
Low: 28-33 F
High: 41-46 F
Overcast with rain, changing over to snow late in the evening. Winds Northerly 5-10 mph. Rainfall amounts between a half and one inch. Snowfall amounts will be less than one inch.



Saturday
Mostly Cloudy
Low: 16-21 F
High: 32-37 F
Mostly cloudy and very cold. Winds Westerly 5-10 mph.

Horoscopes

SCORPIO (OCT 23-NOV 21) The holidays are quickly approaching and what better way to spend them then with your family. Despite your hectic schedule, give thanks to those special people in your life.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV 22-DEC 21) Don't let one little criticism get you down. You have the tendency of taking things to much to heart. Learning from your mistakes will make you a better person in the long run.

CAPRICORN (DEC 22-JAN 19) It's time to spend some money on yourself. You have been working hard and deserve to spend some of that hard earned money on something that isn't entirely needed.

AQUARIUS (JAN 20-FEB 18) Don't let a recent break-up get you down. Celebrate your new found independence by going out with some friends who you haven't seen in awhile. By the end of the night, you won't even remember your ex.

PISCES (FEB 19-MAR 20) Your obsessiveness to details are starting to drive those around you crazy. Next time catch yourself before you start re-arranging someone else's personal space.

ARIES (MAR 21-APR 19) Don't let gossip control your life. Regardless, there will always be someone out there who doesn't like you. Except that and move on with your life.

TAURUS (APR 20-MAY 20) You've just recently hurt someone close to you. Make it up to them by giving them something hand-made. They will appreciate the time and effort you took to making things right again.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUN 21) You feel like your constantly under a microscope at work. Let those around you know how you feel. Sometimes just talking about it makes all the difference in the world.

CANCER (JUN 22-JUL 22) Your stubborness is starting to get in the way of your personal and professional life. You will gain more respect from your peers if you can admit your faults.

LEO (JUL 23-AUG 22) Confidence is always a good thing, but cockiness isn't. Know the difference between when you are being both and see the reaction you get.

VIRGO (AUG 23-SEPT 22) This month you will get the job you've always wanted. Now the next thing is to keep it. Always show a positive attitude and let your co-workers know that you mean business.

LIBRA (SEPT 23-OCT 22) It's time that your organize your life. From meetings to social events, you are taking on more than you can chew. In the end you are only hurting yourself.

End of Semester Word Search

A	N	X	I	E	T	Y	E	S	M	O	N	I	M	S
T	W	G	U	F	Y	I	Y	L	I	M	A	F	A	M
R	R	R	N	I	N	S	T	R	E	S	S	E	D	A
E	W	A	S	R	Q	T	S	U	P	P	O	R	T	X
A	A	D	S	E	J	T	O	N	R	O	C	Y	E	E
S	I	E	M	E	E	D	W	S	R	A	I	B	D	N
E	O	S	T	K	I	I	P	H	X	M	O	V	P	N
A	R	A	C	A	N	R	A	I	P	I	G	V	O	E
C	Q	E	X	H	A	U	S	T	I	O	N	Y	T	R
H	J	F	A	G	E	A	T	E	C	S	Q	E	A	S
I	P	G	T	V	E	E	S	Y	B	D	T	L	T	H
E	W	P	R	O	C	R	A	S	T	I	N	A	T	E
E	S	T	U	D	Y	I	N	G	E	O	A	L	E	A
F	A	J	U	N	U	H	R	W	S	L	S	R	S	L
F	Q	S	T	P	A	P	E	R	S	F	R	A	C	S
O	U	M	P	K	S	T	H	G	I	N	E	T	A	L
C	N	C	R	A	M	M	I	N	G	I	P	L	G	Y

Locate these things associated with the end of the semester.

Anxiety
Coffee
Cramming
Exams
Exhaustion
Grades
Late Nights
Papers
Procrastinate
Research
Stressed
Studying
Support

Want to send a holiday message to a friend, family, or significant other?

For $5, The Critic will print your message, with half of all proceeds going to a local food pantry in Lyndonville.

Send messages and money to the Critic mailbox 7951.

Let someone special know you care!

Students will come and go but fines will always stay

By DEREK PALMIERI
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

The Samuel Read Hall Library at LSC has an impressive collection of material all right at the fingertips of the students. "There are over 100 thousand books, several thousand periodicals, and hundreds of audio and video materials including books on tape and CD," Donna Edwards, Circulation Supervisor at the Samuel Read Hall Library said.

With all of the students and faculty and also members of the surrounding community that visit and use the library, there are a great number of items moving in and out of the library every day. "One of are largest standing fine was some were between three and four hundred dollars," she said.

The fee may not be all that strong of a punishment since there are still unpaid fines being held on file at the library from members of the graduating class of 1996. But there is also a Vermont State Colleges [VSC] policy that is in place at all of the colleges under the control of the VSC in regards to the schools libraries. If their are fines that a student has not paid when they leave the school the library will withhold that student's official transcript.

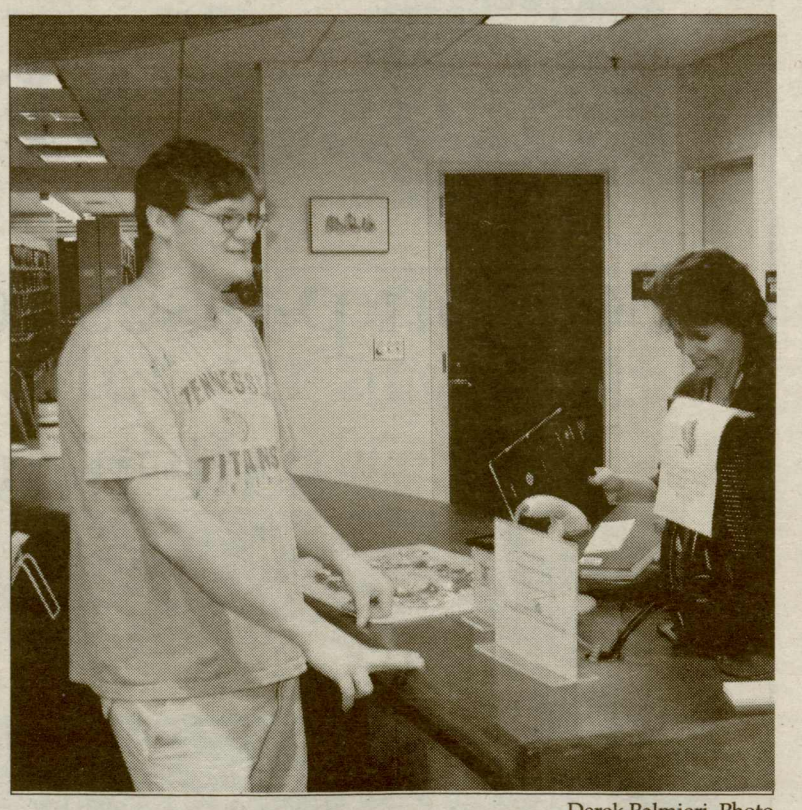
The system is set up in such a way that still allows the student to graduate, but at the same time there is a long standing consequence for not paying the fine, Edwards said.

The reason for the different penalties for students and guests is because the library doses not want to hinder the student's ability to gather the information and resources that they may need for their classes while they wait to pay off their fines.

The library has a system that you will receive your first notice after seven days of the materials being overdue. At fourteen days the second notice will be delivered and at the benchmark of one month students will receive a bill for the purchase of a replacement copy of the said items. Now if the items are returned that a student was billed for, they will not be expected to pay for a replacement, but will still need to pay the late fees.

The system is also standardizes with loan periods for materials and grace periods. The standing number of grace period day is seven for all materials except CD's and videos also DVD's which all have a one day grace period. Once the grace period has passed the fines will start. Ten cents a day on all materials except CD ROMs, videos and DVD's and all 16 millimeter film the fine is one dollar a day for these items.

On December 11th, or "Dewy Day," student will be able to return their over due materials. If they present one non perishable food item, the fine on that item will be cleared. "There are many students that wait for this day to return over due materials and have their fines cleared with some canned goods," Edwards said.



Derek Palmieri, Photo

David Kendau, a math and secondary education major at LSC checks out a book with Nancy Rivet, a part-time reference librarian.

Required graduation tests lack difficulty

By JOSHUA JAMES GERVAIS
CRITIC STAFF

All LSC students that enrolled after the 05-06 academic year are expected to take a series of tests before they graduate. The areas tested are: writing, quantitative reasoning, and information literacy.

Students that enrolled during this academic year will also have to pass an oral communications requirement. These tests are built into courses that every student in a given major must take. The stated purpose of the tests is to make sure student have a minimum level of competence in areas tested, and are ready for life outside of college.

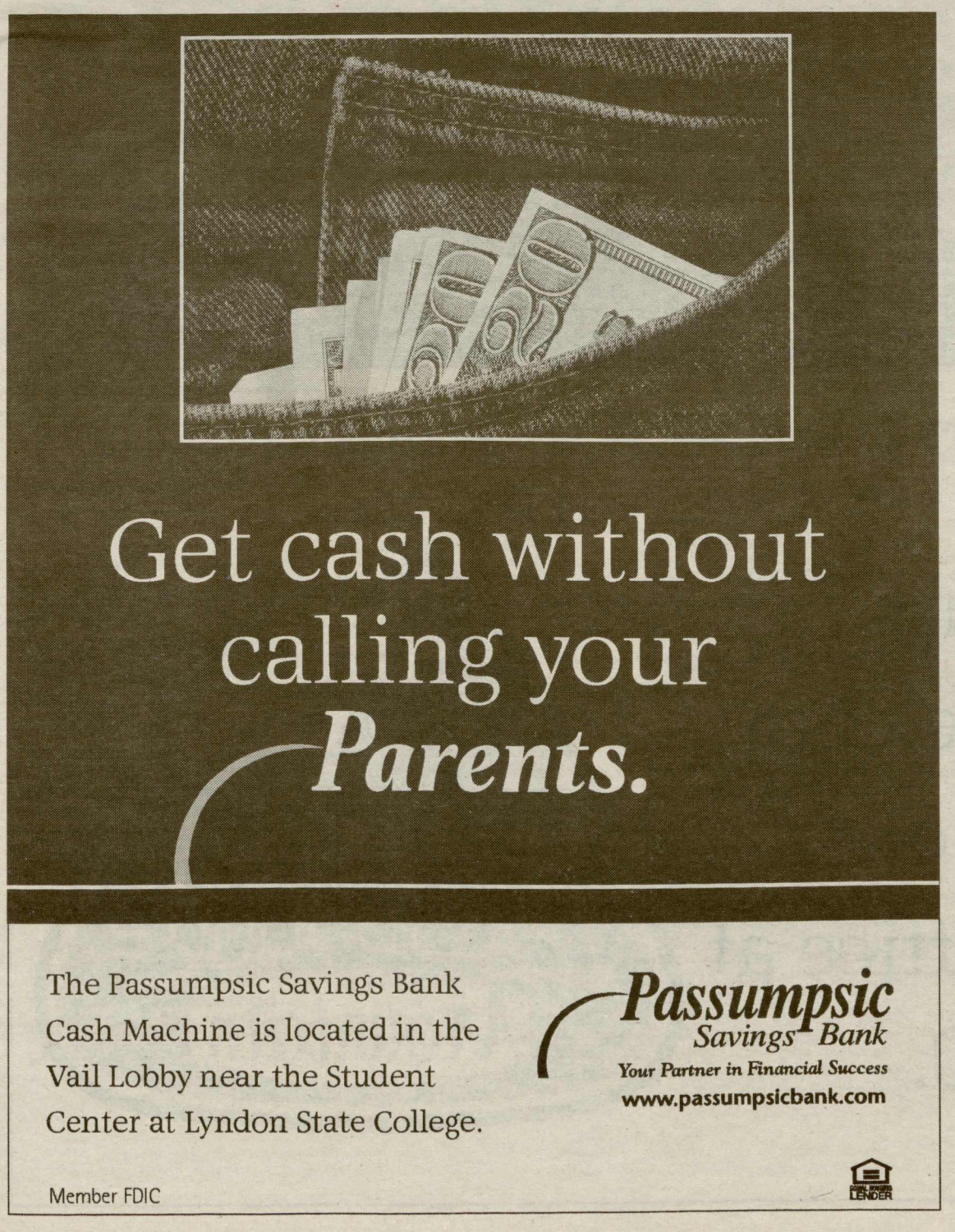
Gladys LaMotte, Junior, recently took the school's Quantitative Reasoning test as part of the class Theories of Personalities. After taking the test LaMotte said that "the questions were way below college level," and that, "third and forth graders could have done it."

LaMotte was very concerned with the test and what it says about the school's expectation of it students. "I think it's a waste of time and it's an insult to the instructors," he continued. LaMotte said that since the test gave no real chance of failure they did didn't seem like useful tool for the school or students.

The graduation standards are graded with a set rubric from one to four. For example, the Writing Evaluation test uses the author's awareness of the subject as criteria. Students receive their grades on a form that lists all of the criteria on the rubric, and how they scored in each group. To pass, the student must have a total score of 13, and also can not have a score of 1, or more than two criteria scored as 2. Students that fail the test must make special arrangement to take it again.

"The basic problem is that such simple measures or tests conceive of education as a product--or, as Carol Moore once put it, conceive of our students as 'degree products' intended for consumption by the business community,"

English Professor Richard Moye questioned the school's commitment to making the graduation standards tests live up to their purpose as well as the wisdom of using school resources such as the school's professors to "demonstrate 'accountability' to some external community, such as the legislature or the business community."



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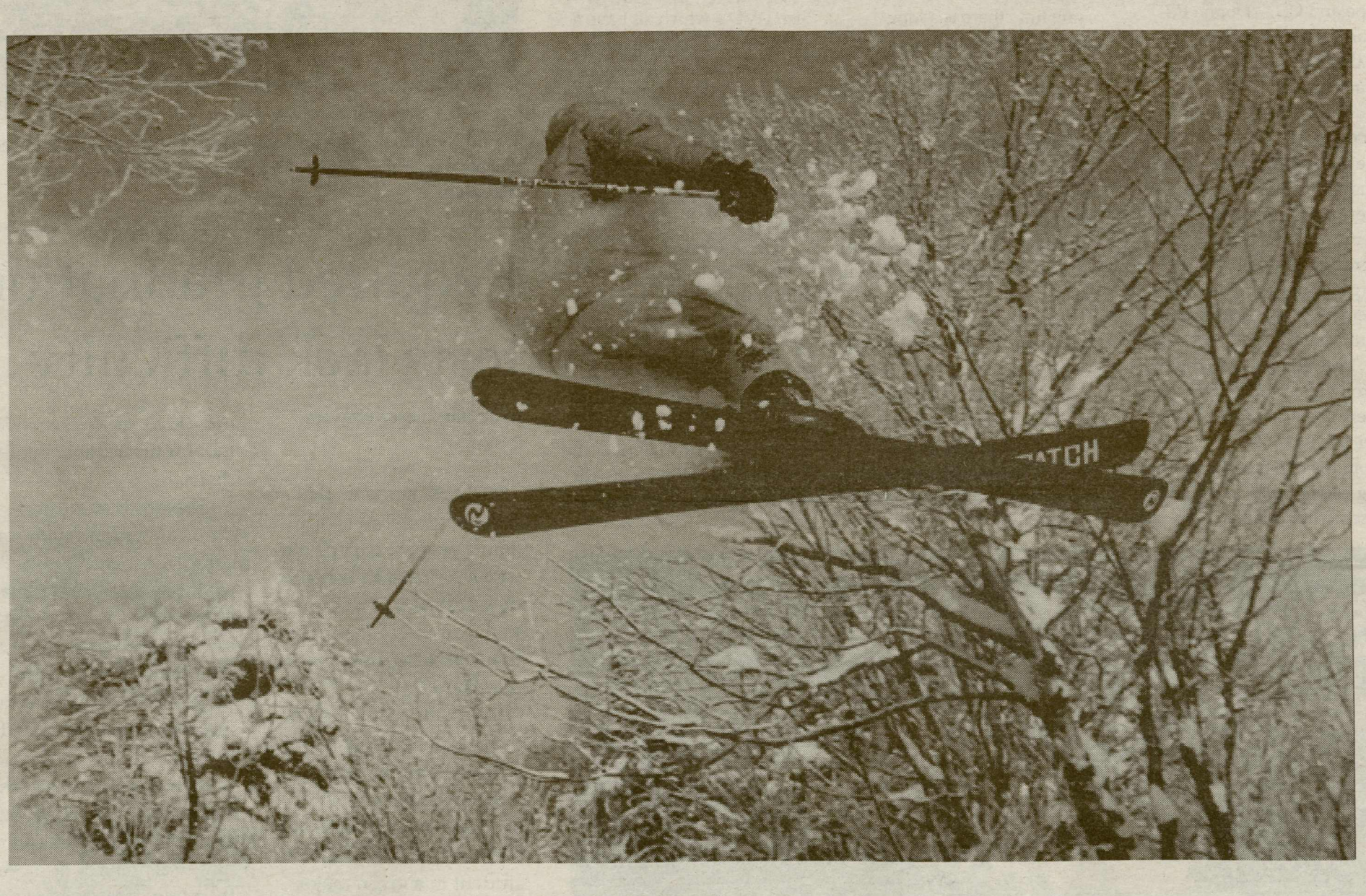

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The Critic

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Lyndonville, Vermont | Friday, December 8, 2006 | Volume 53, Number 8

Inside

Date Rape: Men are targets too

Women have been warned about roofies, a.k.a. the "Date Rape Drug," for years. Now, men should apparently be on the look-out for this illegal drug, too.

Pg 7

Flom will never forget his first

Some of the jokes seemed to be missed by the audience because they were mostly jokes about acting that no one seemed to understand.

Pg 4

Evolution: Students and faculty discuss

Those present at the evolution discussion last Friday found it refreshing that the creationist viewpoint was not brought up.

Pg 2

Is LSC biased toward certain majors?

Among the most popular majors for fall 2006 at LSC are Television Studies, Elementary Education, and Business Administration. However, students from other majors feel that their demands are not being met.

Pg 3

Ballplayers airlifted after car accident

Coaches and staff relieved 'that they're alive'

By ANDREW R. KOCH
Critic Coorespondent

A Lyndon State basketball player is recovering at home this week following a two-car accident on Route 2 in Danville Sunday morning.

18-year-old freshman Kristen Petell was released after being airlifted along with her roommate, freshman softball player Felicia Luke, to Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Hanover, N.H.

Petell was the passenger in Luke's car traveling east on Route 2 when it crossed the center line and struck an oncoming pickup truck. The occupants of the truck were treated at Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital in St. Johnsbury.

The loss of Petell was the last thing the Lady Hornets needed. This is only the latest in a string of injuries to take away depth from an already thin lineup.

As a result of the injuries to Petell the women's basketball team had to play the consolation game of the Lady Hornets Holiday Tournament with only five players and no substitutes. Everyone from Athletic Director Chris Ummer down to the healthy players feels this loss.

"The important thing is that they're alive, and that they're going to recover," said Ummer. He added that he didn't know Petell was involved in the accident until shortly after the game started on Sunday.

Ummer said that the stretch of Route 2 where the accident occurred, near Joe's Pond in Danville, is notorious for dangerous road conditions, especially in the winter, due to a number of factors, including the banking of the road, as well as snow squalls and how the winds blow snow across the road in that area.

Photo courtesy of *The Caledonian Record*

Firemen work on the wrecked remains of LSC freshman Felicia Luke's vehicle just off of Route 2 in Danville on Sunday morning. LSC Athletic Director Chris Ummer said the athletic department is grateful with the outcome of the accident and that the girls are alive.

"We're grateful for the outcome, because it certainly could've been a lot worse," Ummer said.

"It'll be tough for the rest of the semester," sophomore forward Sara Fetterhoff said at practice Wednesday night.

Head Coach Vincent Maloney said that he didn't know Petell was injured in the accident until after the game Sunday.

"We didn't know if she was stuck behind it or if she was in it," said Maloney. He also said that he, along with Assistant Coach Rachel Maxwell and the rest of the team, drove down to Hanover after the game to visit Petell and her roommate, Felicia Luke, in the hospital.

"She'll (Petell) be back on Monday to resume classes. That's all we know for sure. She's still really sore," Maloney said. "We miss having her as a teammate and as a friend. We're looking forward to having her back as a person and as a student. We miss them both, and we look forward to having them back."

As for the Hornets' other injuries, Maloney said that freshman Victoria Bruce and junior co-captain Whitney Hoyt should be healthy and able to play next semester. "I hope they'll be able to practice starting on January 2, which is when we return from break," he said.

Packing House to hibernate until end of month

By JOSHUA DAMASO
Critic Staff

Students looking to enjoy a night of fun and dancing may find themselves looking for a new hot spot in the Northeast Kingdom for the next three weeks.

According to fliers scattered on tables during last Saturday's business hours and a posting on a company Web site, Lyndonville's "Packing House" will be closing its doors until the end of the month due to liquor violations stemming from last June. State officials decided to impose the 21 day punishment after numerous violations were cited that included over-intoxicated patrons.

On the dance club's myspace.com Web site, members of the club's management staff posted a message to customers concerning their three-week-long closing.

"We here at The Packing House do our very best to provide a safe and responsible atmosphere where you always know you will have a good time," the message stated.

"Our dedicated staff constantly puts up with verbal and physical abuse from patrons who may not understand that it is our responsibility to enforce Vermont's VERY STRONG and COMPLICATED liquor laws."

The management entry also confirmed that because of the violations in June several employees lost their jobs.

"While we try to make each night perfect, one night back in June we failed. It cost our employees their jobs and it cost you the customer a place to go for 21 days."

While some Lyndon State College students said they felt the closing of the popular club would give them less to do on the weekends, others felt that it couldn't have come at a better time.

"It's a perfect time to be closed because it's over break and during finals," said Erika Fuller, a senior at LSC. "I think that you can only do so much and they do the best they can. It's not their fault that some people are dumb."

Other students said the temporary shut down is going to hurt the dance club financially because of the high number of students who are going to want to get away from school during finals week.

"I think they're going to lose a lot of money because it's the end of the semester and a lot of people are going to want to go out," said one LSC senior who asked to remain anonymous. "They're going to lose [thousands] of dollars."

The post on the Web site also explained the need for patrons to think twice about drinking too much alcohol before they arrive at the club. In addition, the note stated that the club would like to continue to establish a relationship with the Department of Liquor Control for the sake of its patrons' safety.

"As we head towards Dec. 30th, we look forward to continuing our relationship with the Department of Liquor Control so that we may maintain a safe place for you, your friends and your family to have a fun night out."

"In the future we hope our patrons will think twice about drinking before they arrive, what it means to be over-intoxicated and the ramifications of over-intoxication to themselves and others."

Aramark to begin composting Jan. 1

By CALEB BYERLY
CRITIC STAFF

In an environmentally-friendly initiative, the Stevens Dining Hall at LSC is going to begin transferring its wasted and leftover food to compost beginning January 1.

Aramark has teamed up with facilities on campus as well as the waste management of Lyndonville to begin bringing its wasted organics to a local farm where it will be used as compost.

This will be the start of an on-going push for local sustainability. The foam cups used in the snack bar have been replaced with recyclable cups and the snack bar is working on ways to eliminate Styrofoam as well.

Tadd Stone, director of Food Services, is also trying to find ways of obtaining food from locally owned businesses in an attempt to support the local economy. The current food supplier, Sysco, has been willing to label all of its products which will indicate what state the food came from in order to help determine which products to purchase.

"I think it's a great thing to participate in," Stone said. "We are trying to get ahead of the national push for environmentally-friendly practices."

In an article for Food Service Director, a magazine designed for campus dining management, Portland State University was highlighted for serving a completely compostable meal.

Everything, including plates and silverware, was capable of being recycled as compost. This helped the school to earn a "Businesses for an Environmentally Sustainable Tomorrow Award" from the city of Portland.

Josh Gervais, Critic Staff

Tadd Stone, the Director of Food Services and Donna White an Aramark employee stand outside the Steven's Dining Hall Thursday. Aramark will begin composting leftover food starting Jan. 1.

Creationism: apparently not worth talking about

By KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
MANAGING EDITOR

Those present at the evolution discussion last Friday found it refreshing that the creationist viewpoint was not brought up.

"Evolution is a fact and if you don't believe it, you're not educated about what it is," Alan Giese, Professor of Natural Sciences said. "Evolution is a fact of our lives, we can observe it."

The real crux of the debate was the definition of evolution. Janet Bennion, professor of sociology and anthropology, was the person heading up the discusion. Bennion had asked some of her students what evolution was on a test and got a few slightly different answers.

"My intention was to clarify some important on evolution for freshmen," Bennion said. Some of her students were under the impression that evolution is something that happens in individual organisms while others thought it was a change in the species.

Giese had much to say on the subject of what evolution is. Evolution does not happen in the individual, Giese said.

Evolution is a change in the species over time. A mutation on the genetic level does not cause an individual to evolve, nor does it cause that organism's offspring to evolve, Giese said. Furthermore, a mutation in an individual is not passed onto the individuals offspring unless the cells in the reproductive areas are affected.

Janet Bennion then brought up a few issues surrounding evolution. Among them was the idea that human technology has, in effect, stopped evolution in humans.

Giese pointed out that even though "natural" selective factors had been reduced by technology, selective factors still existed and that evolution was still occurring. In other words, whether a factor that encourages or discourages traits in humans is man-made or not, evolution has not been stopped.

"How much free will do we really have?" Metin Yersel, Professor of Physics, asked on the subject of how much of what we are being a product of our DNA and how much is free will. "One could argue how much free will we have," Yersel said. "We tell people they have total control over their behavior but they don't."

The question of free will and how societies' rules conflict with human nature was about as philosophical as the discussion got. The discussion stuck mainly to the scientific viewpoint. Yersel said that faith and science should remain separate, lest faith simply become a collection of things we don't know.

Posting policy pulls no punches

By ANDREW R. KOCH
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

One Student Life official says that some people have become "overzealous" when it comes to putting up posters advertising events on campus.

Student Life Assistant Brandon Buckley recently sent out an email as a "friendly reminder" to all club presidents, advisors and representatives regarding the placement of posters around campus. He said that posters were being put up in areas where they aren't supposed to be hung, as well as being hung with illegal materials, such as duct tape and tacks. Buckley declined to name any particular offending groups.

"Posters were being put in the science wing, LAC, and even in the breezeways around campus," said Buckley. Posters aren't allowed in these areas. He added that posters also aren't allowed on windows or the brickwork, and that's where some of the posters were ending up.

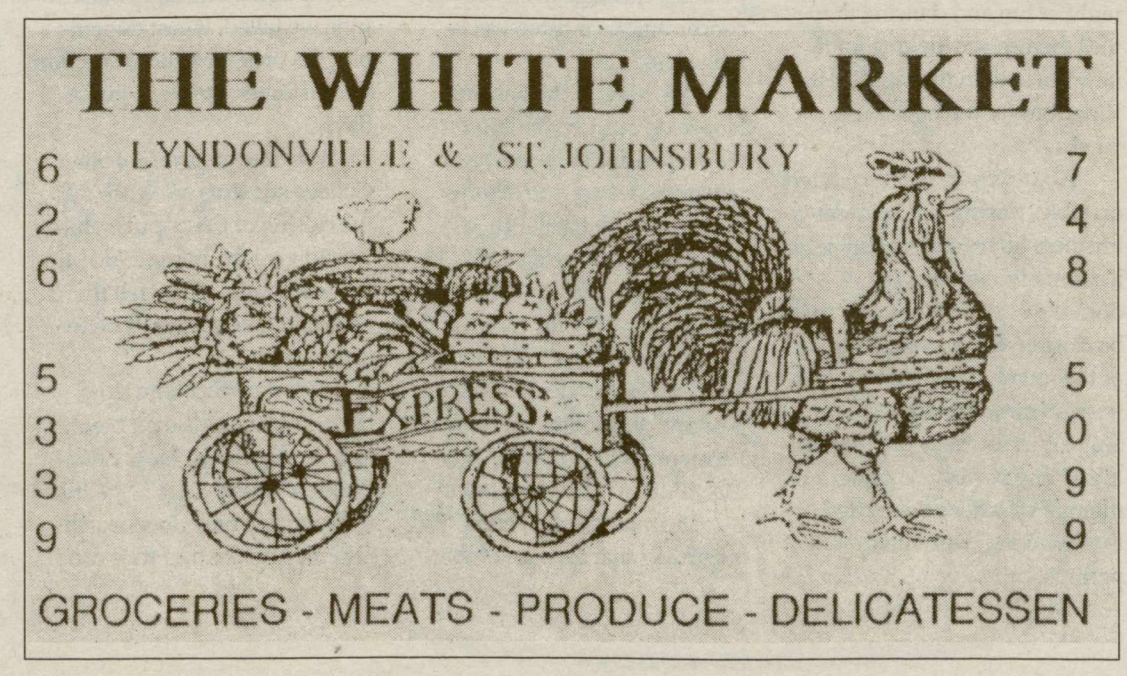
According to clause three of LSC's Poster Policy "Posters may not be placed on any glass surfaces, including but not limited to doors, windows, partitions, or display cases except as authorized by the appropriate college official." Buckley said that Residential Life Director Jonathan Davis is that appropriate college official.

The poster policy also states that tacks may be used only on bulletin boards, and tape can only be used on the columns in the Student Center.

Buckley said that another reason he sent out the email was "...so the services of the buildings are maintained, and aren't defaced by resin left by duct tape or tack holes."

"Advertising events is hard on campus. People need to be creative, but it (the advertising) needs to be done appropriately," Buckley said.

"People should make sure they're aware of the poster and chalking policy. It's in the Club and Organization Handbook, Student Handbook, and on the (LSC) Portal." Buckley also said that anyone who wishes to advertise an event should feel free to contact him or the other student life assistant, Kate Murphy, and they can put the events into The Buzz (the brightly-colored cards in the dining hall), as well as on the online and Student Center calendars.



Broken and burnt out students

By JOSHUA JAMES GERVAIS
EDITORIAL EDITOR

I went to my first class after getting back from break. The people I saw in my class looked tired, sick, and not the least bit rested.

The break was suppose to be time for people to rest and recharge, but for most people the break was just another source of stress.

Some people spend their breaks working and others mess up their sleep schedules so much that their bodies don't want to wake up until some point in the afternoon.

I know that I was up until early this morning trying to hack out a little bit more of my novel, and of course there were some Murphy Brown reruns that needed my attention as well (Murphy Brown was my inspiration to be a journalist as well at the source of most of my ethics).

The truth is I will sleep in whenever I get the chance to, and I have absolutely no self-control when it comes to waking up when I don't have to. I pretty much wasted my break sleeping in and staying up too late (since I slept late it took me longer to get tired).

One week gave me more than enough time to make my first few days back to school really unpleasant as I walked around half in a haze with bloodshot eyes and a bad attitude.

It may seem odd that, especially in the fall when we only have one break, we would waste the opportunity to recharge for the last few weeks of class. Of course, that's easier said than done.

People deal with things: long drives home, stressful family gatherings, work related stress (such as working a retail job on Black Friday), and countless other stress factors.

Add in the temptation to sleep in too late and put the body's internal clock off kilter, and it almost makes you wonder why we look forward to these breaks in the first place.

So what can you do to solve this conundrum? The most important factor is to be aware of the things that make breaks less restful, and try to avoid them.

If you sleep in too much, then set an alarm clock in the morning. If you work a job that requires a lot of your time, then make sure to do something for yourself to compensate for the drain on your time and energy.

Simple things like that can make the difference between having a break and being broken.

LSC program selection is lacking

By CRYSTAL JAMES
CRITIC STAFF

Course offerings fall short of meeting student needs.

On average, LSC offers approximately 330 classes per semester to accommodate an average of 1,369 students each year.

Among the most popular majors for fall 2006 at LSC are Television Studies, Elementary Education, and Business Administration.

Recreation Management and Meteorology are also high. However, students from other majors feel that their demands are not being met.

Many students feel that there are not enough hands on classes that involve real life career situations.

Sports Journalism and more short story based classes for the English department were on the list of classes students would like to participate in.

Criminal Psychology and courses on dealing with youth at risk were suggested by students from the Psychology Department.

Other suggested courses by students were Business Communications, Writing Based Advertisement, Understanding Adolescent Behavior and Cooking.

Senior, Tyler Goforth suggested that "a minor in business be required for all recreation majors," in order to meet the demands of the business based environment they will be working in.

Another concern for students was the lack of times that certain courses are offered.

Third year student, Amanda Young, was discouraged at the fact that a human resources class that she had hoped to take was only offered every odd numbered spring.

Such a schedule doesn't allow much opportunity for students to engage in these courses.

Student Recommended Classes

Business-
Principles of Management, Business Ethics, Business Communication, Writing Based Advertisement

Psychology/Human Services-
Human Interaction, Criminal Psychology, Understanding Adolescent Behavior

English-
Media Law, Children's Writing, Shorthand, Sports Journalism

Exercise Science-
Fitness for Performance

Television Studies-
Broadcast Journalism

Dear Editor,

She was close enough for me to smell the alcohol on her breath. Her eyes were dilated. I was sitting on one of the chairs at the kitchen table—a tree stump cut to length. She let out another breath, filling my air with a sickly sweet smell. I inhaled and let it out; I waited. It took a while for her to speak, but when she did, I listened. "Kiddo, someday you'll become someone I'm proud of." With the unsteadiness of a drunk, she clutched the pressboard table and made her way to the only four-legged chair in the kitchen. With a plunk she hit the seat and then slumped into a stupor. I looked at the clock; it was well pass midnight. My eyes wandered around the room; the floor was missing hunks of tile, the paint on the walls was cracking and chipping, and the ceiling had wet spots all over it. And then there was her: A middle-age woman who wore her hair in two neat braids, perched baseball caps on her head, and donned green rubber boots all year round. I stood up and walked over to her seat. I gently nudged her into semi-consciousness. I lifted her arm and dangled it across my left shoulder. With my right arm, I encircled her waist and hoisted her up to her feet. As I walked her to her bed, I wondered if I'd ever make it out of the household alive—let alone make anyone proud.

Four years later I sat at a computer in the Science Museum at LSC. The sole computer is positioned on a shelf behind very tall cabinets. I was emailing my friend about how the week was going. Minutes went by. Then a physics study group came in and sat down at the tables on the other side of the cabinets. I heard a girl's voice say, "You know Karen? Crazy Karen? The weird one? Well, I've finally decided that I don't like her." She never knew I was at the computer. I wondered how a person I had only briefly talked to a couple times—didn't like me? I was perplexed. I AM perplexed. Eventually she saw my book bag that I had left on the tables—and recognized it. So then she tired to downplay what she had said, and act ac if she had been joking. I finished my email, grabbed my backpack without saying anything, and headed home.

My alarm went off. It was five in the morning. I crawled out of my bed and groggily headed for the stove, to add more wood. By candlelight I brushed my teeth. I shined the flashlight into my change can. Shoot. There were only six dollar bills left to my name, and I knew I would need 10 dollars for gas to drive to school. With one hand I held the flashlight, and with the other I dug around in the cold change, picking out the quarters. I made my peanut butter sandwich for lunch. Driving on the back roads, my hand gripped the steering wheel tightly, as I kept mulling over how I was going to get enough money to make it through the week. I hit a deep pothole and cursed my driving after the car reacted to the hit by shaking the high heavens out of the wheel—and my hands. I couldn't afford car repairs. I thought about how I loved the trailer I lived in—how it is better than any other place I have lived. I thought about how wonderful my friends are—how I wished, with all the intenseness I could direct, that I could give them more. When I arrived at school, I walked into the Science museum and sat down at the computer to email my friend. I emailed her from across the country, informing her of my wishes. Futile perhaps, but longings nonetheless. In a few short minutes I would learn that someone who didn't know who I was, hated me—the lesson of the day. Traveling back over those bumpy dirt roads, homing in on the trailer I loved so much, I realized that it takes a lot to understand someone. It takes a lot of thought and invested time. I thought back to all the people whose company I would have missed out on if I had never invested that time—I would have missed a lot.

Karen Bunnell

Oliver Stone's *World Trade Center* provides hope for the U.S.

By JUSTIN A. SINKEICH
SPECIAL TO THE CRITIC

Campus Activities Board (CAB) presented "World Trade Center" as this week's movie choice for LSC. "World Trade Center" is based on the true story of two New York City Port Authority Police Officers, starring Nicolas Cage and Michael Peña, who survived the terrorists' attacks on Tuesday, September 11, 2001.

Sergeant John McLoughlin (Cage) and Officer William Jimeno (Peña) were two police officers who risked their lives to save the people trapped in the North Tower of the World Trade Center. As they were leaving the South Tower, gathering the equipment they needed, it collapsed. Sergeant McLoughlin led his team to safety by running into the elevator area. It was the strongest part of the building.

After the South Tower collapsed both McLoughlin and Jimeno were trapped underneath the debris. Officer Dominick Pezzulo (Jay Hernandez) was the third officer who survived the collapse, but he died shortly after attempting to get Officer Jimeno out of the debris.

Two United States Marines, Staff Sergeant Karnes (Michael Shannon) and Sergeant Thomas (William Mapother) were searching the area that night for survivors. They heard noise coming from the area where McLoughlin and Jimeno were trapped. After finding the two officers Karnes called for a rescue mission on his cellular phone. From that night into next morning McLoughlin and Jimeno were pulled to safety and were taken to Bellevue Medical Center in Manhattan.

McLoughlin and Jimeno, met up with their wives and the rest of their family while receiving medical treatment. Both of them (in different ways) told their wives that it was they who kept them alive. The other way they stayed alive was by refusing to die and to do whatever it took to get out of the debris.

Oliver Stone, director of "World Trade Center," was criticized for a few things including the fact they felt this film was released "too early." At first I agreed with the critics for releasing this film too early. After watching the movie however, I realized why Oliver Stone had this film released in August (2006). Stone said, "It was a story that had to be told." Indeed, it was a story that had to be told.

"World Trade Center" was a movie about not giving up and not losing hope no matter what comes in the way for America. It truly is a story about courage and survival. 9/11 was the worst day in America since Pearl Harbor. Despite how horrible that day was for America it only did one thing: 9/11 only made us (Americans) stronger in the aftermath. Americans bonded together more than ever before and this has led to the increase in American pride.

I wrote this article to make the point that no matter what comes our way we will always answer back. As the greatest and most powerful nation in the world we have proven that the United States is the world's best nation. We answered back to the Japanese after they bombed Pearl Harbor on Sunday, December 7, 1941, and sixty years later we answered back against al-Qaeda and the Taliban. Any other future attack against the United States, Americans will always respond in any way and continue to prove that no nation will ever defeat us.

I encourage everyone and all Americans to see this movie after the DVD is released on December 12, 2006. I also encourage all Americans to remember one important thing: "We are proud! We are brave! We are Americans!"

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Twilight Players bring series of one act comedies to LSC

By JESSICA MILLHISER
CRITIC STAFF

Jonathan Flom's debut as a theater director here at LSC was well received.

"Flom is a great director, I really liked how he did the play," cast member Emily DiFranco said.

Denis Nunez, cast member for the third one act said "Not only is Flom a great director, but he's also a nice guy inside and outside the theater."

The performance last Friday consisted of three different one act comedies: "Loveliest Afternoon of the Year", "New York Actor", and "Home Fries". The one acts were completely unrelated to each other, besides the fact that they were all written by John Guare.

The one acts were humorous in nature though one cast member commented that they thought some of the jokes may have been a bit too intelligent and thoughtful for LSC students.

The students did a great job acting. However, especially in the second act, some of the jokes seemed to be missed by the audience because they were mostly jokes about acting that no one seemed to understand. You really had to pay attention to get the funny parts.

Some cast members who had worked with previous director, John Walker, commented that they weren't accustomed to the way Flom did things, but still appreciated the knowledge he brought from Penn State.

DiFranco said, "I never had John Walker, so I had no comparison of the two, but I liked the way Flom worked, he never wasted our time. It was my first ever production and Flom gave me a lot of helpful constructive criticism."

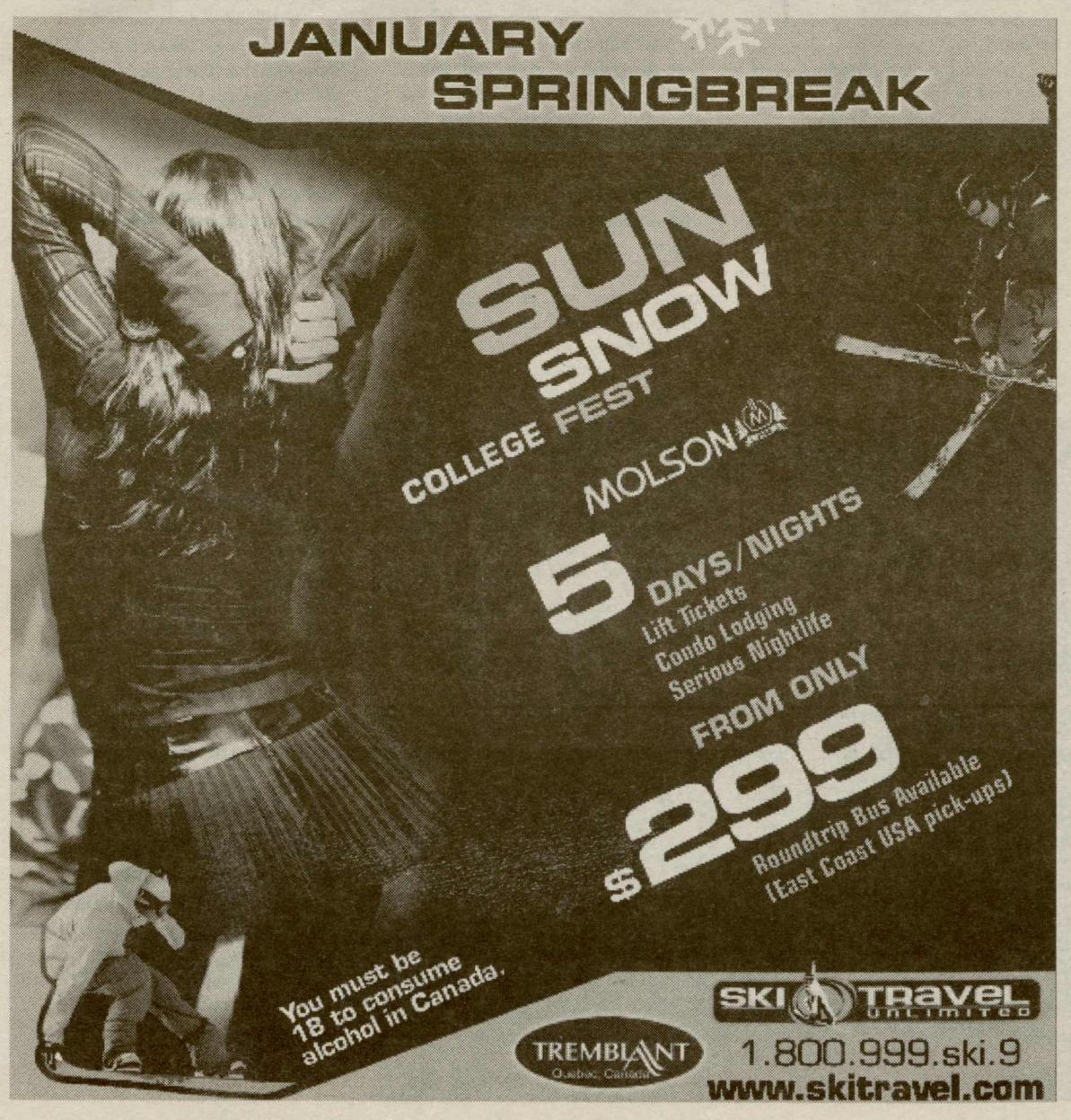
Both Nunez and DiFranco felt like they could relate to their characters. "[Rudy] kind of represents a lot of youth and the struggle to defy parents and achieve greatness. I had a lot of fun playing him," Nunez said.

"I loved my character. Nat is so sarcastic it's hilarious. I thought Flom did a great job casting because all of the characters were a perfect fit for the cast member picked," DiFranco said.

Both the audience and cast members seemed to enjoy the plays. "I thought the play was something that we worked hard to put on and the outcome was pretty good," Nunez said.

From top left: Hayley LaPoint, Kurt Heinchon, Adam Rutt, and Emily DiFranco in The Loveliest Afternoon of the Year, Denis Nunez and Ellie Whitmore in Home Fires, Amber Donato and Dan Koonz in The Loveliest Afternoon of the Year, Carrie Anne Quinn in Home Fires.

PHOTOS BY DAVE GIAMBARRESI



LSC community discusses holiday season and traditions

By STACEY MAYNARD
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

As the holiday season is getting closer, students share their thoughts on the what this time means to them.

"The holidays for me are a time to be with my mother and grandparents," Amber Donato said, a sophomore living on campus. "The holidays mean a time for me to be with my family and friends; to decorate the house and bake cookies with my grandmother," Donato said.

Stormie Griffin, a junior living on campus, had different thoughts.

"I am really excited to be heading home for winter break," Griffin said. "It's so nice to go home and hangout with friends and family."

A junior living on campus, Ryanne Ayers likes the smell of the snow.

"I love the holidays," Ayers said. "To me it means family and snow. I love when it snows because good things always happen to me when it snows. The first snow causes me to run around the house and open up all the windows to let in the cold air and the smell of the snow. I love spending time with my family, especially since we're all older, time spent together is more meaningful."

Joshua LeClair, a sophomore, likes picking out a tree with his family.

"I love the sound of jingle bells and the way my house feels warm and heated," LeClair said. "Every year my dad, Matt, Adam, mom, and I pick out a Charlie Brown tree for the holidays."

Monique Priestly, a junior living off campus misses her friends.

"The holidays, for me, means a reunion with family and friends that go to school far away," Priestley said. "It's also a time to work on projects that I never have time for. Best of all it's a time to catch up on things that were missed while being separated from good friends."

Audrey Perry, a junior, when talking about the holidays got a big smile on her face.

"The holiday season is a time for forgiveness," Perry said. "It's a time for family and an opportunity for closeness. It's a time for celebration and smiles; for laughter and cheer."

English Professor, Chandler Gilman, gave his thoughts of the holiday season.

"The days at this part of the year get gloomier, darker, shorter and shorter, and just when you think daylight will be blinked out forever, the days clunk into reverse gear and imperceptibly begin to get longer," Gilman said.

Tabitha Fitzgerald, Critic Staff

Henekis Stoddard, an advocate for Umbrella, a local group providing support for domestic and sexual violence runs the program P.E.A.C.E at LSC.

LSC opens an Umbrella office for P.E.A.C.E.

By TABITHA FITZGERALD
CRITIC STAFF

On the third floor of the Vail building a little office has become the new home for a large program.

Vail 422 now houses the P.E.A.C.E. program or Peer Educators Advocating for Choice & Empowerment. This is a program that is run by the Umbrella agency.

The P.E.A.C.E. program is meant to "provide direct service for people experiencing domestic violence or survivors of domestic or sexual violence," the programs coordinator Henekis Stoddard said. Stoddard is an Umbrella advocate that runs the program on campus as well as being the area's Domestic and Sexual Violence Youth Organizer.

The program provides support and guidance for victims of domestic or sexual violence and stalking said Stoddard. The program shows people the options they have and provide any kind of support that is needed.

"If a student is assaulted, they might have to talk to RAs, Public Safety, Hall Directors or the police That can be hard and confusing after going through a traumatic event," Stoddard said. The P.E.A.C.E. program helps the victims deal with these meetings.

The programs advocate, listens to people to see how they feel they need to be helped. From there, the program helps the individual find the help they need and advises them on what can be done to deal with the issue.

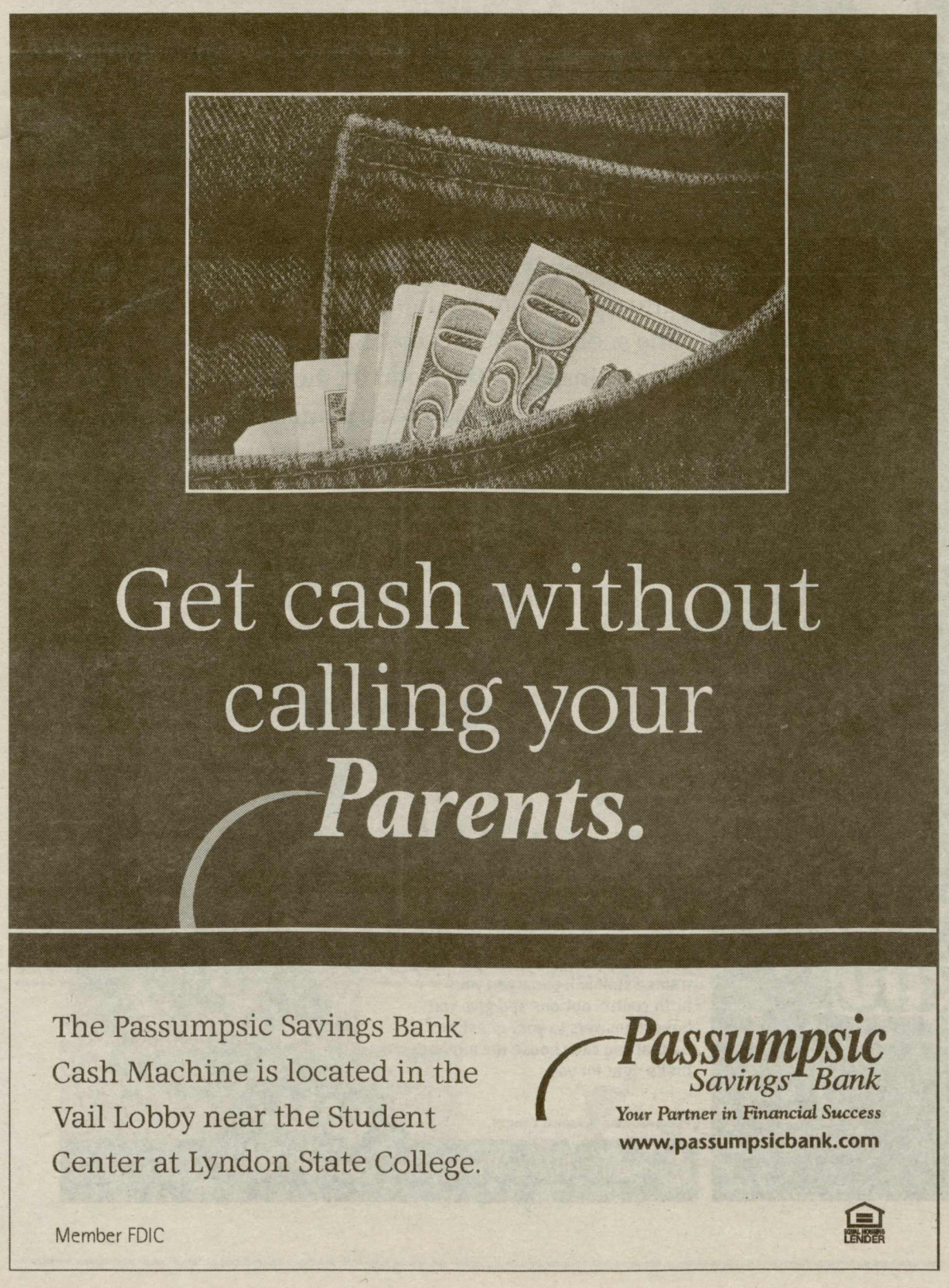
The P.E.A.C.E. program has been on LSC's campus for four years. Originally it was located in the Brown House. Due to lack of space the program never had a real home.

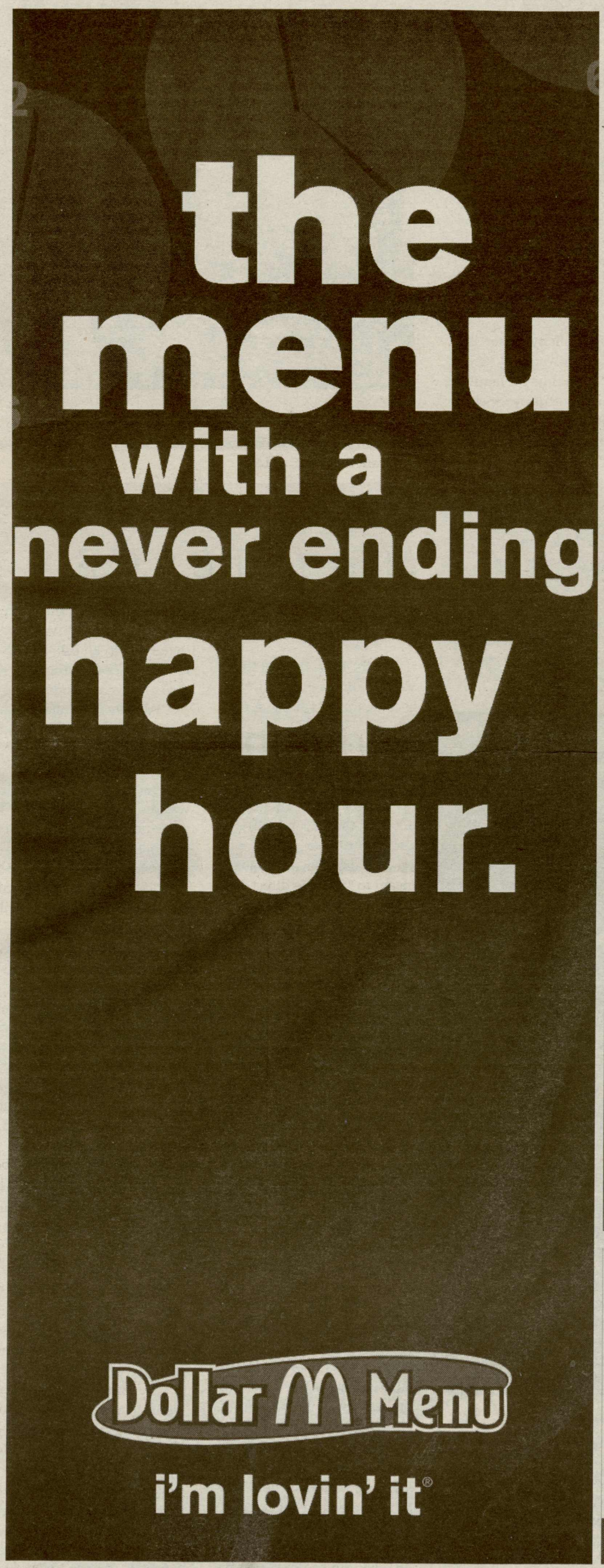
"We view the college as a community within a community and as such it needs to have the same advocacy," Stoddard said. The program was brought to campus to make help more accessible to the college community. The program knows the college's policies on things like sexual harassment and can deal with these problems more effectively than an outside source Stoddard said.

When the program was working from off campus or from the Brown House it didn't provide the services it was intended to provide. That service is to provide a safe place for the campus community to discuss domestic and sexual violence issues, concerns for one's self or friends and a place to educate the community on these things in a confidential space, said Stoddard.

With the new Rita Bole building open space became a little more available and thanks to the Psychology department the P.E.A.C.E. program now has a home.

The campus office is open Wednesdays 8:30-2:30 and on Thursdays from 8:30-10:30. Appointments are not needed; a person can just stop by. If someone needed help and the office was not open there are always advocates available at the main Umbrella office in Saint Johnsbury and they provide a 24-hour Hotline.





Holiday Messages

Merry Christmas, Theo Epstein, you jerk. Nice job spending all this money on crap. What the hell did you drink over Thanksgiving? Then you spend $9 million per year on Julio Lugo? What the hell were you thinking? Then you spend $14 million per year on J.D. Drew? Have you lost your mind? Hopefully, Santa leaves some money under the tree because I'm not. Merry Christmas, you overspending idiot.

Paul

Thank you for loving me.
I don't know if Jesus has a mailing address, so I'll send this card to you.

Anna

Want to send a holiday message to a friend, family member, or significant other?

For $5, The Critic will print your message, with half of all proceeds going to a local food pantry in Lyndonville.

Send messages and money to The Critic mailbox 7951.

Let someone special know you care!

The LSC AMS NWA will be holding their annual winter ball in the Bole Gym on Saturday January 27 from 8 p.m.-1 a.m. This year's theme is "the snoball". Tickets cost $22 for a couple and $12 for a single. At the door, the tickets will cost $24 per couple and $14 for a single. The sale runs Monday-Friday January 15-January 26.

The Lyndon Review is seeking applications. Send in your artwork, photography, poems, essays, and short stories to be published in the spring. Send all submissions to Joshua Gervais. All art must include a name, contact info and the genre of the piece.

New rugby coach looks to create strong team bonds

By DILLON ELIASSEN
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

LSC's new, and first ever, rugby coach, Rhet Amos, blames the Rugby Team's suspension for hazing on a lack of guidance about the sport.

Australian native Amos, 34, has played and coached rugby for over 15 years in Australia and the U.S., and is currently a captain for a men's Burlington club in Division II of the New England Rugby Football Union. Amos has played for a Sydney, Aus. club called the Breakers, and more recently with the North Queensland UTS Mariners.

Amos, who has been traveling between America and Australia for 15 years, lives in this country in the summer and in Australia during winter, which is when Australia has its summer.

When he's in Australia, Amos builds materials and equipment for rope courses, and other outdoor climbing gear; in the States he works as a YMCA camp administrator.

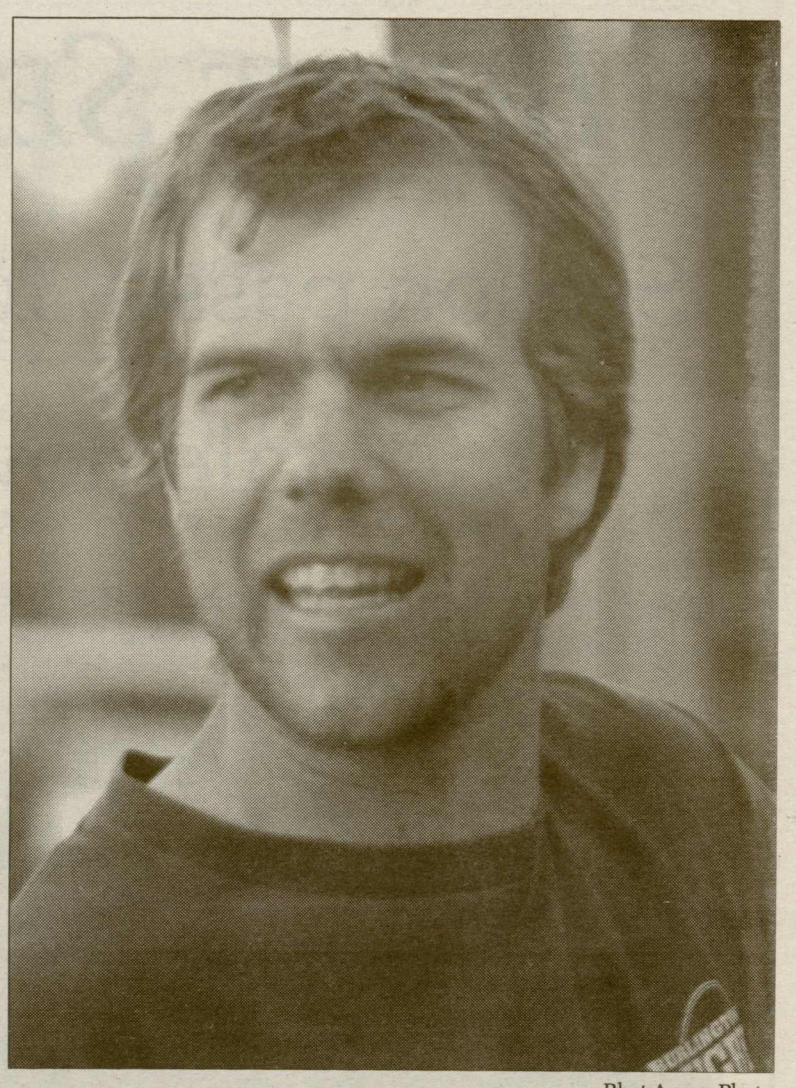
Amos said his experience and knowledge of the sport, on and off the field, will help with team discipline.

"I'm definitely against it," Amos said of hazing. "Hopefully this incident will get the seniors to change their ways."

Amos also pointed out that "It's expensive to maintain a team." Amos' club in Burlington is sponsored by Nectar's and Long Trail, among other companies, and if they don't like how the members of the club conduct themselves, they might cut the team's funding.

Amos said that it is normal and common to want to celebrate after winning a match, but that members of a club should refrain from too much wild partying.

"If you act like a fool off the field it reflects on the club," Amos said, "and other players don't want that."



Rhet Amos, Photo

Rhet Amos, the new rugby coach, brings 15 years worth of experience to the LSC field. Amos has played rugby in Australia and the U.S. and is currently a captain for a men's Division II club in Burlington.

CASH FOR BOOKS

Get the most cash back December 11-21!

And remember we buy back books every day!

LYNDON STATE COLLEGE BOOKSTORE
Vail Administration Building

efollett.com ONLINE. ON CAMPUS.

Women are not the only ones at risk of being date raped

By ANDREW R. KOCH
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

Women have been warned about roofies, a.k.a. the "Date Rape Drug," for years. Now, men should be on the look-out for this illegal drug too.

Public Safety Director George Hacking said this in a recent campus-wide email. In the email, he says that he's heard several disturbing stories about roofies being used against men in what he describes as "A cowardly act."

"Anytime you blindside someone and take advantage of their inebriated state of mind, it's a cowardly act, and it's also a crime," Hacking said. "Some people find humor in drugging anyone who is unsuspecting."

"We've had a couple cases this year on campus," Hacking said, adding that students were the ones who told him about men being drugged.

According to Hacking, Public Safety didn't know if it was women or other men who were drugging the male victims. Hacking added that there had been more reports of date rape on campus in past years.

Hacking offers these tips for staying safe when out having a good time with friends at bars and parties:

1: Don't leave your drinks alone. Finish them up or leave them with someone you trust.

2: If you forget to do this, Hacking suggests simply throwing the drink away.

3: If you think you've been duped, tell a friend or the bartender.

4: If you're unsure what to do or who to tell, call the local or state police.

"The only way it (a date rape) will be confirmed is to tell someone. It's better to notify the authorities sooner. If you wait, it's too late. The evidence (the drink) is gone, and the drug is probably gone from your system," Hacking said. He mentioned that there is a blood test available to find the date rape drug (scientifically known as GHB).

"Our goal is to make people aware. The potential is there for anyone to become a victim of date rape," Hacking said.

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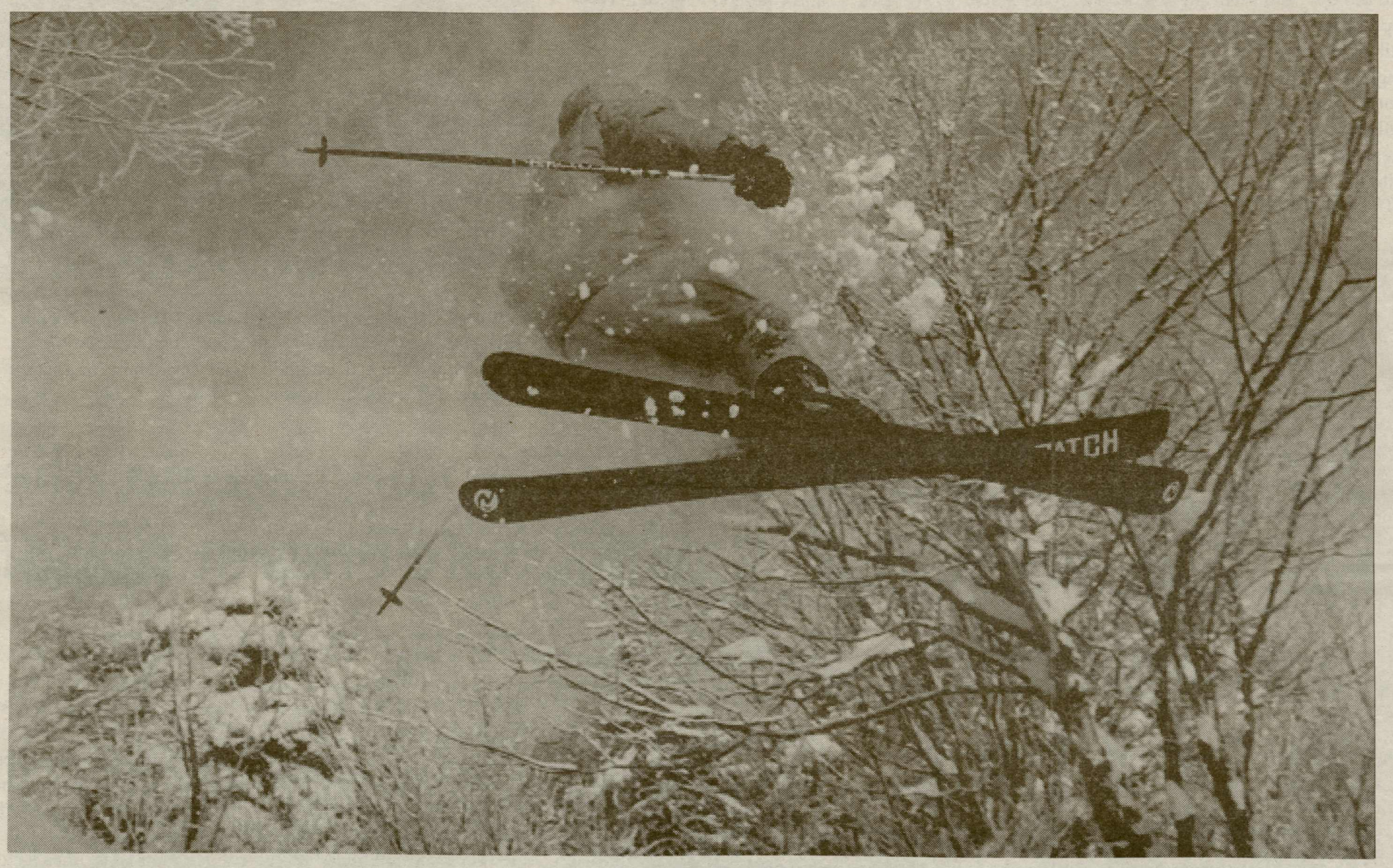
Season passes for college students are on sale now for only $199



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Lyndonville, Vermont | Friday, December 15, 2006 | Volume 53, Number 9

INSIDE

PERRON SAYS GOODBYE Pg 2

CNN CHATS WITH LSC Pg 2

Saying goodbye to Lyndon State

Students walk away from campus for the final time as graduates

By MARY WHEELER
EDITOR

It wasn't an ordinary day for the 40 LSC students who graduated Thursday afternoon. Faculty, staff, students, family, and community members gathered together in the Alexander Twilight Theater to congratulate the graduating seniors on their various accomplishments.

"It feels fantastic to have finally graduated," Sean Parker, a meteorology graduate said. "I have applied to over 30 different places, and I'm looking to be on television."

> *"As life goes on, you will move away from Lyndon but it will forever be in your memories. You have earned a special place in our hearts."*
>
> **Guest Speaker John Deleo**

LSC President Carol Moore welcomed the graduating class with some words of wisdom. Moore said that with opportunities come expectations, and that the graduates needed to take risks and embrace life. "Never forget those who helped you along the way and remember to give back to others along your journey," Moore said.

Board of Trustee member Charles Bucknam said that the graduation marked a major milestone for the seniors and that the LSC community wanted to come together in celebration of the commitment and dedication they had made to their education. "You all have every right to be proud of yourselves, and I sincerely congratulate you all and wish you the best in your future endeavors," Bucknam said.

Joshua Damaso, Critic Staff

LSC's finest get ready to head out the door in front of several family members and friends.

John Deleo, professor of Recreation and Ski Resort Management, was chosen as the guest speaker and while he admitted that he was surprised to have been selected, he also said that he felt a strong connection with this year's class. "I have a special kinship with this graduating class which is shared by with many of my colleagues. We have watched you grow into fine, hard-working, and caring individuals."

Deleo reflected back on the graduates early careers at Lyndon, expressing how they were a breath of fresh air. "As you move along your journey, you will feel like a ship and Lyndon will be your port," Deleo said. "'As life goes on, you will move away from Lyndon but it will forever be in your memories. You have earned a special place in our hearts."

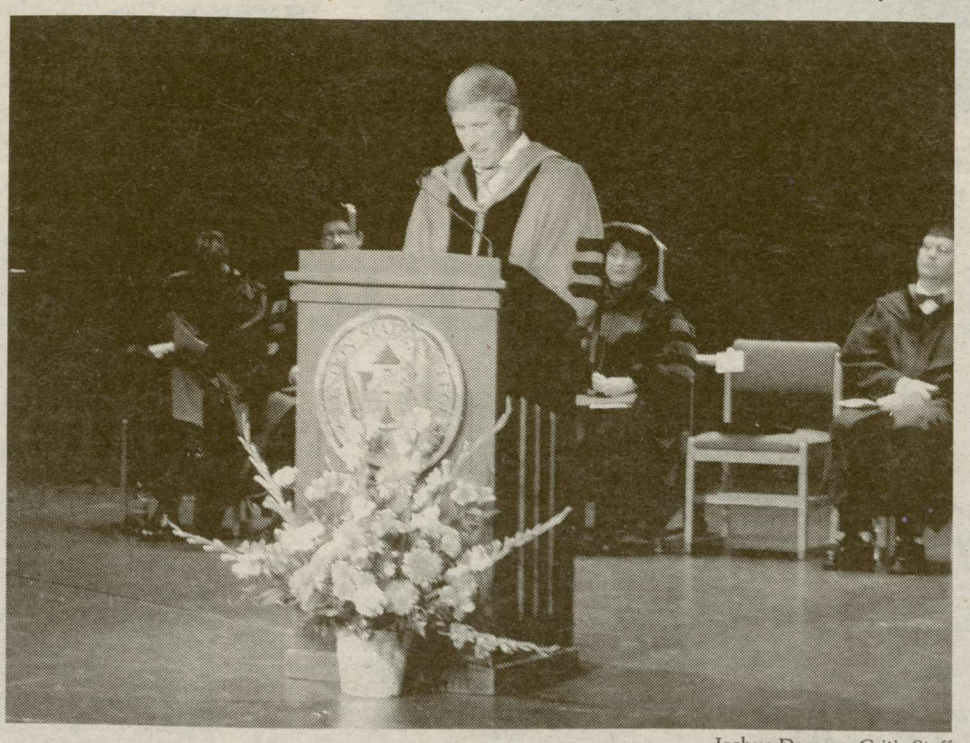
Deleo expressed in his speech the five things that helped guide him through his life. He emphasized the importance of not forgetting family and to respect time. He stressed how the next day starts the night before, and for the graduates to always believe in themselves and follow their hearts. "Your ideal job hasn't been created because you haven't been there to fill it," Deleo said.

Deleo ended his speech telling the graduates to continue on with education because education provides many hats that will keep them young and keep their minds awake and open to new ideas.

Barclay Tucker, assistant professor of Digital and Graphic Arts, made the presentation of the candidates. William Cotte, as well as the St. Andrews Pipe and Drum provided music for the ceremony.

"I have a job interview in New York. Initially I was scared, but I know now that I will be fine," Robert Conley, a television studies graduate, said.

"It's great to be finally done," Jessica Maple, a human services major, said.



Joshua Damaso, Critic Staff

Fall 2006 graduating class Guest Speaker John Deleo offers advice and stories of his own success to the 40 members of the class as well as their families and friends in attendance.

UPDATE

Athletes recovering

By ANDREW R. KOCH
CRITIC STAFF

Two Lyndon State athletes who were injured in a car accident 10 days ago are still yet to return to campus.

It now appears that freshman softball player Felicia Luke and freshman basketball player Kristin Petell won't be able to come back to campus until next month, according to Lyndon State Athletic Director Chris Ummer. It was thought that Petell could come back to campus on Monday.

"She's still complaining about trauma signs," said Ummer. As for whether or not she'll be able be to play any basketball at all next semester, Ummer said that the person to make that decision would be a physician. Ummer also didn't know when Luke would be back on campus or if she'd be able to play softball in the spring.

"There's no way of knowing that. We'll have to wait until January. She's still not back on campus," Ummer said.

Ummer also said that Athletic Trainer Pete Guilfoyle hasn't seen either athlete yet because they still haven't returned to campus.

The accident occurred when Luke and Petell were driving on the morning of Dec. 3. Luke's car crossed into the westbound lane of U.S. Route 2 in Danville, striking a pickup truck. Both players were airlifted to Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Hanover, N.H.

CNN Executive talks to LSC

By KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
MANAGING EDITOR

Chris Cramer, the managing director of CNN International, spoke to LSC students and faculty via a speaker phone Thursday.

Cramer decided to focus the discussion on the war in Iraq and the dangers involved with covering it. Cramer felt that the Iraq story is the crucible of organizations like CNN. Because the situation is so dangerous and complex, it will come to be the defining story for this generation of journalists, Cramer said.

It is dangerous being a journalist in Iraq. "The profession has never been more in harms way than it is now," Cramer said. The drive from the airport into downtown Baghdad is extremely dangerous due to car bombs, gunfire, and kidnapping attempts. "Normal life in Baghdad does not exist."

The current situation in Iraq is something Cramer would not have predicted four years ago. Journalists in Iraq are attempting to cover the situation on the ground from inside fortresses. When they go out, they are accompanied by security personnel. CNN has a contract with a private security force made up of mostly former members of the British military. The company has a specialization in security for media operations, Cramer said.

The danger makes telling the complete story in Iraq impossible. Cramer said that he would rather only tell part of the story than none of it. Not covering the war in Iraq is unthinkable, Cramer said.

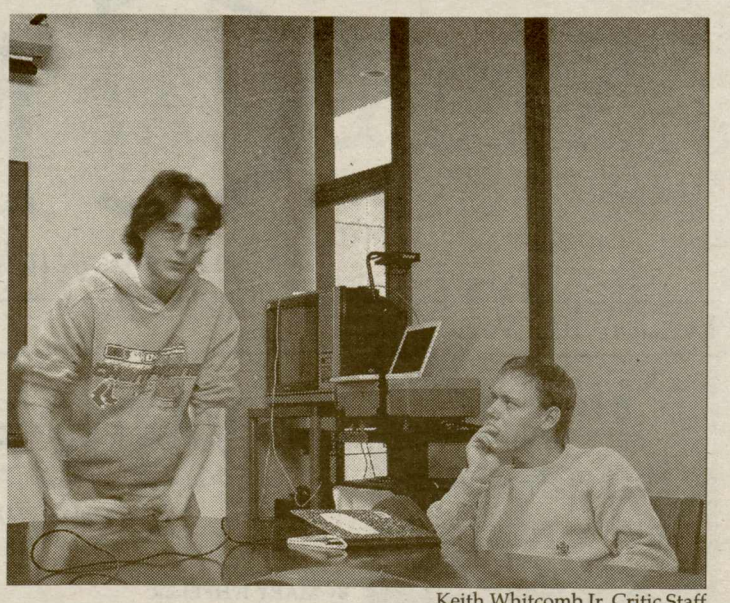
Cramer made it clear that CNN has a strict policy against arming journalists. Not carrying weapons is part of a list of strict protocols CNN has to keep its reports and staff safe. Carrying a weapon makes a journalist a combatant and therefore, more of a target. A journalist's job is to turn the significant into something interesting, not participate in combat, Cramer said.

Another safety protocol is that no journalists are sent into Iraq without having been there before. If that sounds like a catch-22, it is, Cramer said. CNN does not want to send green reporters into a war zone.

Many news organizations have chosen to stay out of Iraq altogether due to safety reasons, a decision Cramer respects. Journalism is, and always has been, a dangerous profession although the death toll amongst journalist has risen in the past few years.

The situation in Iraq is something that keeps Cramer up at night. Cramer is also the president of the International News Safety Institute; a group that helps news organizations around the world to take proper measures in ensuring the safety of journalists and other media personnel.

The INSI also works to help reporters and media personnel, who suffer from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. PTSD is a reaction some people have to being in life threatening situations. Some of its symptoms include emotional detachment, nightmares, and flashbacks.

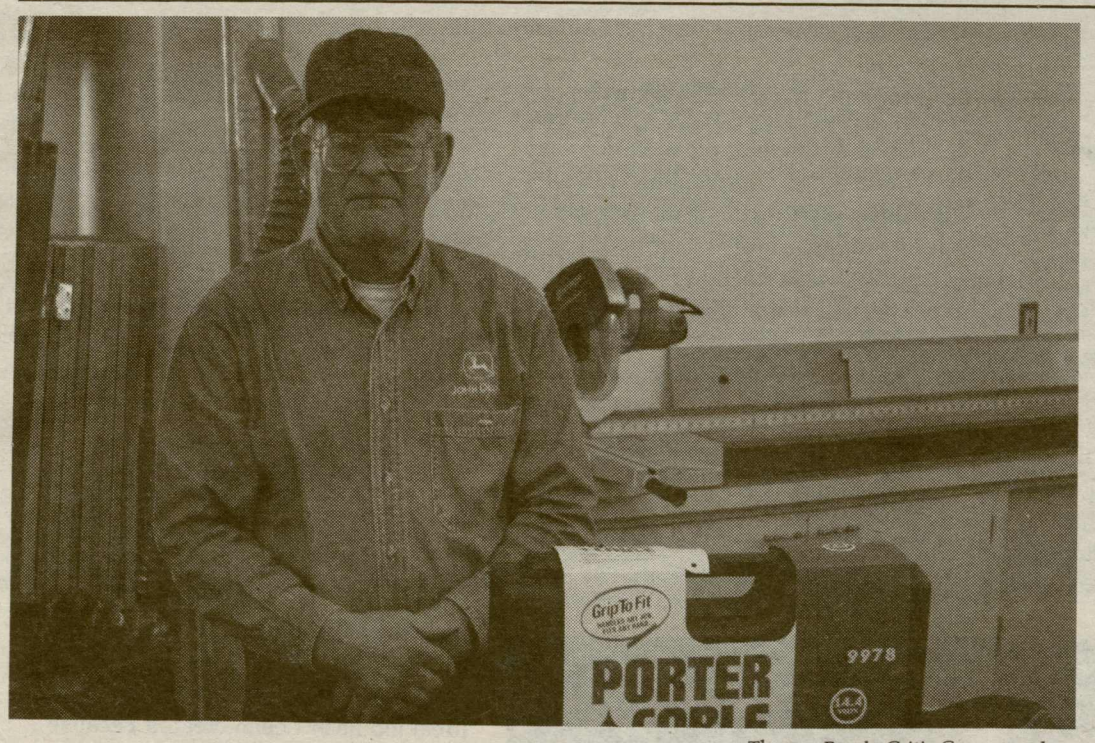


Keith Whitcomb Jr, Critic Staff

Brandon Sorenson and Duncan Koebrich speak with CNN International Executive Chris Cramer over speaker phone Wednesday afternoon in the Vermont Room.

Cramer has had first hand experience with covering dangerous situations. Cramer was one of the people taken prisoner when the U.S. embassy in Iran was taken over by hostile Iranians. The experience made Cramer decide the he no longer wanted to cover war zones, something that is strictly voluntary at CNN.

Cramer's views on journalistic detachment have changed over the years. Cramer used the disaster in New Orleans as an example: If someone asked him when he first started out if he would help someone in trouble or simply continue to take notes, he would have kept taking notes. These days Cramer said that helping out his fellow human beings would come before the story.



Thomas Borck, Critic Correspondent

Richard Perron, a maintenance mechanic at LSC for the past 26 years will soon be retiring. Perron plans to spend his retirement with his grandchildren.

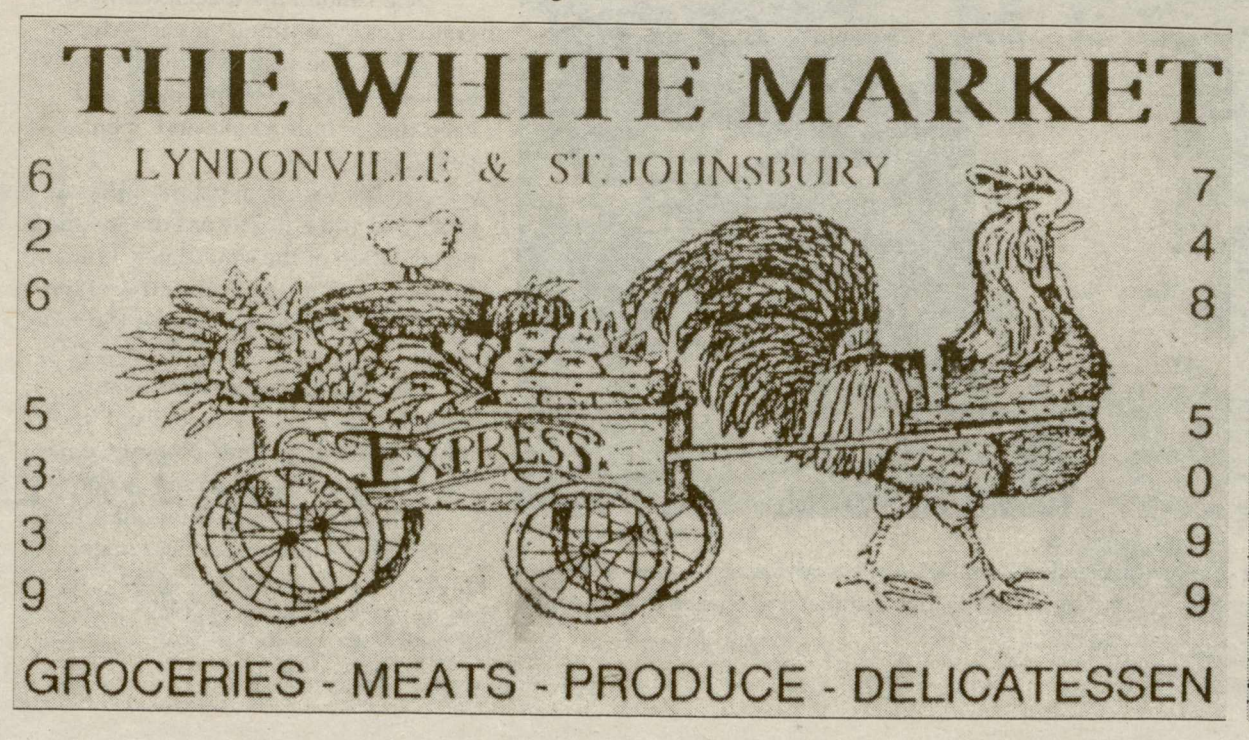
Perron to retire after 26 years of service at LSC

By JOSHUA JAMES GERVAIS
CRITIC STAFF

Richard Perron will soon be retiring after 26 years working as a maintenance mechanic for LSC. Numerous members of the LSC community crowed into the maintenance building to celebrate Perron's service to the school last Friday.

LSC President Carol Moore praised Perron's years of hard work,and a letter from US Senator Patrick Leahy was read aloud. Perron was also presented with gifts such as a John Deere Clock, an electric drill, and some humorous items from Mailroom Supervisor Harry Swett. Donna Wheeler, the director of conferences, also presented Perron with a number of t-shirts symbolizing her gratitude for his help during the summer conference season.

Perron said he plans on spending his free time with his grandchildren. "That's the beauty of grandchildren," Perron said. "You know where you're going to spend your money."



Fair Trade Goes Bananas

The banana trade has a long history of exploitation of workers, manipulation of governments and environmental destruction. Today, the banana industry is engaged in a race to the bottom, as each company tries to increase profits by reducing production costs to the detriment of farmers, workers, and the environment.

Oké USA , the country's first Fair Trade fruit company, launches this month, bringing fair trade, ecologically grown bananas to Northeast consumers excited to be more Oké. The company champions sustainable business and farming practices in an industry infamous for worker exploitation and environmental abuse. Oké aims to set new standards of quality for not just bananas but for social and environmental issues.

"Banana companies have been accused of horrible abuses for almost a century. Oké USA is a new kind of company, one that brings good, healthy food to people here and enhances the lives and communities where bananas are grown," said Jonathan Rosenthal, co-founder of Oké and one of the original founders of Equal Exchange.

Oké Fair Trade bananas are available in food cooperatives, food services and select markets throughout the Northeast USA . Distribution will be expanded in the coming year to regions across the country. Oké bananas are Fair Trade certified by TransFair USA .

Why school is so difficult

By JOSHUA JAMES GERVAIS
Editorial Editor

Sometimes I hear one of my fellow student say something that makes me wonder, "Why is this person here at all? They don't seem to be interested in learning anything." Of course, when this happens, I don't go up to the person and ask them that question—it's really none of my business what they do with their lives.

Still, there's something worrying about that sort of apathy. A college education provides two types of skills: practical skills and analytical skills. Practical skills are things that have specific world applications, such as learning how to edit video or file taxes for a large company; things that go a long way towards getting a job where those skills will be needed. Analytical skills are essentially learning to think and learn more efficiently; they don't help as much on your résumé, but they can be applied to a larger variety of topics.

The stereotypical college student that gets a degree and then can only find work at a fast food restaurant should be familiar to more people—it shows how we, as a culture, tend to value practical skills over analytical ones. People who think that way, will tell you that college is for preparing you for a career rather than preparing you for life. This sort of thinking tends to leave out a rather important fact; many people have more than one career over the course of a lifetime, and the practical skills required for one career might not help with another.

Analytical skills aren't the sole purview of English and Philosophy majors—they can be found in many majors. For example, a Computer Scientist will know just as much about logic as any Philosopher. The real problem is interest, since analytical skills don't come with an immediate payoff like practical skills they tend to get overlooked.

I hate to admit it, but I'm guilty of allowing my analytical skills to go unused more than I should. Sometimes I don't think I have the time to really think about what I'm doing, or I just don't have the energy. When I allow this to happen, I always feel disappointed with myself. I know that it's important that I practice these skills now so when I enter the real world I'll have them at my disposal, but being naturally lazy I sometimes fail myself in that capacity.

The key difference between this and my phantom example from above is interest. I can understand being too busy or lazy to use these skills, but not being interested in using them at all seems about as smart as shooting yourself in the foot and saying that you like your foot better with a hole in it.

Message from the Student Government

The Student Government Association is a very interesting thing. For all the ups and downs we have had this year, so far, Student Government's final goal has and will always be the same and that goal is to serve you the students of Lyndon State.

All the things that we have experienced this semester shouldn't be seen as a weakness and a sign of ineffectiveness but rather as a positive.

Each difference of opinion the Executive Board has had and the long five hour Senate meeting's where everything is fully discussed, is a testament to how fully and completely the Student Body is represented. Also, the fact that we have had so many articles in the Critic is both a testament to the fact that they are just as dedicated to the Student's voice as the Student Government is, and I would like to thank them for keeping the students fully informed about what we do week to week.

I would like to take this time to also thank you the students. It was really good to see you come to us when things were rough, and to hear the criticisms you all had for the school. I hope you will continue this trend in the future. We are and will continue to work diligently to actively and effectively change things for the better here at Lyndon State College.

I would also like to thank all Senators and the other Executive Board members for all the hard work and dedication you have shown for the students. As well, I would like to thank the clubs for all the interesting and exciting events you have put on this semester and I look forward to seeing what exciting things you bring to the campus next semester. Without the work you all do, Lyndon State College would be a very different place.

Thirdly, I wish the senior's graduating in December much luck in your life after Lyndon State and, to the seniors yet to graduate, keep focused.

To the freshmen class I hope you have learned a lot this first semester here at Lyndon State College. If you need help with anything or guidance during your time here at Lyndon State, please know that the members of the Student Government Association are here to help you in anyway we can, as most of us have experienced the same things in our own time here.

The college has a motto. "Lyndon State where the experience makes the education." All you students make this college the greatest experience of all. The last thing I would like to say is that for all those who haven't gotten involved in the Student Government, I highly encourage you to email me, lars.chiristensen@lyndonstate.edu, over break and we can make sure you can dive in with both hands to the work we do at the beginning of next semester.

To all the other students I wish you a happy and safe holiday and, again thank you for all the contributions you give to this school on a daily basis.

Happy Holidays,

Lars Christensen,
Student Government Association President

To the Editor,

With the continuation of expensive textbooks, students are having more and more trouble affording. Some students may not even buy textbooks because the money has already been spent towards increasing tuition costs. There are ways that the school can help students save money and there are ways that students can save themselves the money.

Every year, we buy our textbooks and, when the year is over, we don't use them anymore. The school could set up a Book Swap, where the only price students will have to pay is the price for its storage. When a student no longer needs a textbook, they could drop it off at the Book Swap location. When a student wants to get the textbook, they can pay for the storage cost of the book and save a lot of cashing doing it. Students have done this in the past and it's time for the school to step up in setting up a Book Swap.

The costs of books in the LSC Bookstore are relatively competitive. Compared to the Barnes & Noble prices, the books in the LSC Bookstore are typically $10 more. Savings for used books are the most popular purchase for students. Students can save additional money by becoming members of chain book dealers, such as Barnes & Noble or Amazon. Members of Barnes & Noble can save around 25 percent on new book prices, where the price of a new textbook can be cheaper than a used book at the LSC Bookstore.

It's a fact that students are not rich people. It's a fact that the most common reason for students dropping out of LSC is the inability to pay for the cost of school. With used book savings at the LSC Bookstore, memberships to book dealers, and a Book Swap, students could save hundreds of dollars, which could be just enough to convince many students to come back to LSC.

Jonathan Maciel
Student Governmet Association Secretary

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LSC Box 7951
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LSC grad releases self published book based on own life experiences

By TABITHA FITZGERALD
CRITIC STAFF

A new author has joined the ranks of the LSC community.

What started out as a fun attempt at a short story became much more. Charles Spring, an LSC graduate and an employee at the Hornet's Nest snackbar published his first book, "The Twin Blades and the Doom Chasm Brigands."

Spring's book is a self-published work done through Author House Publishing Company out of Indiana. Originally Spring had just meant to write a fun short story. The first completed draft was only ten typed pages.

After finishing the story Spring said he decided to expand on the characters. After doing so he began to think about publishing the work.

"I knew that if I wanted to have it published it would need a better, more meaty, plot," Spring said. The story went through 12 drafts before Spring was happy with the results.

The book took three years to complete, Spring said. Because he published it himself, he didn't have to deal with an editor and he owns the copyright. However, it also meant that he had to pay all of the publishing fees. "I started saving as soon as I decided to publish it as a book," Spring said.

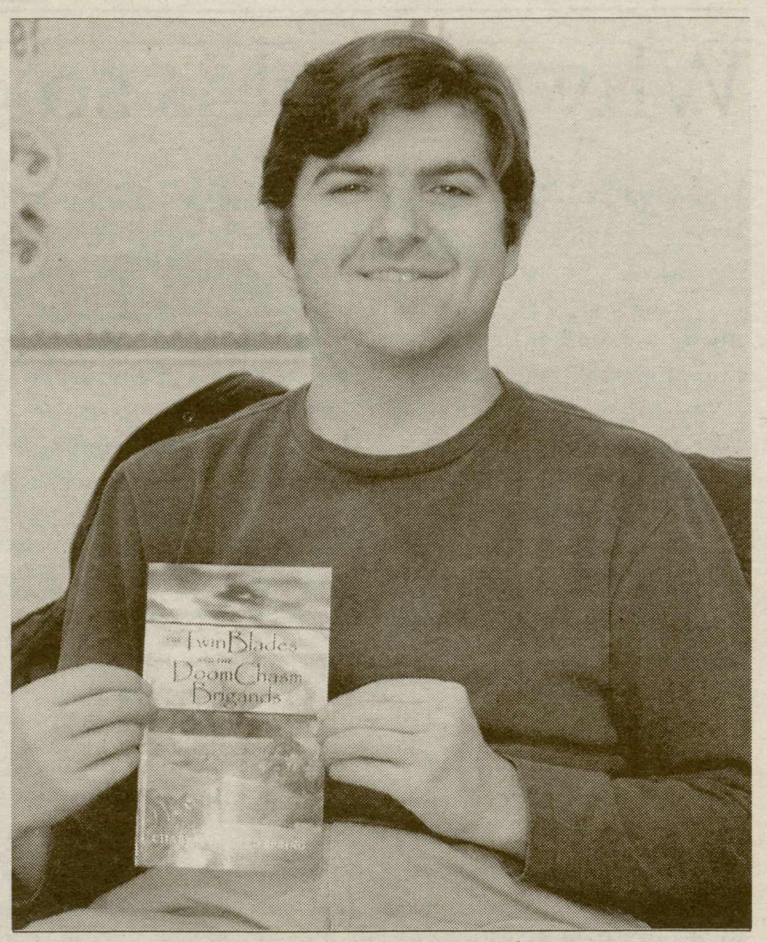
The book is about the tragedies of life, Spring said. The main character learns to peacefully accept and deal with the troubles of his past through what he learns throughout his adventures in the book.

Spring said he sees parts of himself in both of the main characters in the story. The main character is lonely and Spring said that comes from his adolescent years. The other character is a companion. He is outgoing and he loves life. Spring said that this character is more representative of who he is now. Because of these two personalities the two characters in the book balance each other out, Spring said.

Spring is studying to be a high school math teacher. He graduated from LSC in 2005 but returned to finish his teaching studies.

"It's corny, but I learned that anything is possible from writing this book," Spring said. He said that writing this story was a lot of work. "It is a short story about 2300 words. To college students who have had to write papers that is nothing. But it took a lot of revisions to get it finished," Spring said.

This book is just the beginning for Spring. He intends to put out four more books in this series. This book is targeted for a young adult audience. The book is for sale on Authorhouse.com, and will be available at Boxcar & Caboose Bookstore and Café in Saint Johnsbury and at the Lyndonville Pharmacy in Lyndonville.



Tabitha Fitzgerald, Critic Staff

Charles Spring, a recent LSC graduate poses with his newly released book titled "The Twin Blades and the Doom Chasm Brigands." Spring's book is self-published through Author House Publishing in Indiana.

World AIDS Day lacked community recognition

By ELIZABETH STRAUSS
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

December 1 was World AIDS day; a day dedicated globally to recognition and awareness raising activities of HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, however little was done by LSC on this day.

Sam Silverman, a counselor at the Brown House, said it was not from "a lack of desire. Staffing issues make it difficult to get out on the campus. There isn't enough staff to do educational work on campus."

Silverman said that the Brown House staff is sensitive to the risk factors for HIV and AIDS and that the nursing staff does its best to identify and counsel students who may be at risk. He said the nurses "counsel through the clinical process" and "there is lots of follow up."

There are free condoms available at the reception desk at the Brown House, and the office offers HIV and STD testing, as well as gynecological exams and birth control counseling.

World AIDS Day is not just the responsibility of Brown House staff though. Associate Dean for Student Affairs, Leo Sevigny said "It should not have been overlooked. To be blunt, we just missed this one."

According to the Vermont Department of Health Web Site, there are approximately 440 people in Vermont diagnosed with HIV/ AIDS. Of these, 65 of these are under the age of 30, and these are just the people who have been tested. It is estimated that twice as many people are actually HIV positive and know of it.

Sevigny met last week with Dean for Student Affairs Jonathan Davis to discuss creating a list of approximately 10 days each year that will be recognized on the LSC campus.

Some of the recognition events that Sevigny said you will see around campus next year will raise awareness for Black History Month, Coming Out Day, Domestic Violence Awareness Month and World AIDS Day to name just a few.

Sevigny also pointed to budgeting as playing a role in how these days are recognized, but said that "The sooner we have a list of events, the better things can be planned for".

There has been a Hate Free Community group which Sevigny said is still an organization on campus, but that it is difficult to get people involved. He says "You will see renewed efforts" to get students involved in that organization in the future.

Student textbooks stolen and resold for profit

By KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
MANAGING EDITOR

Your books may be stolen from you and returned to the bookstore for a profit.

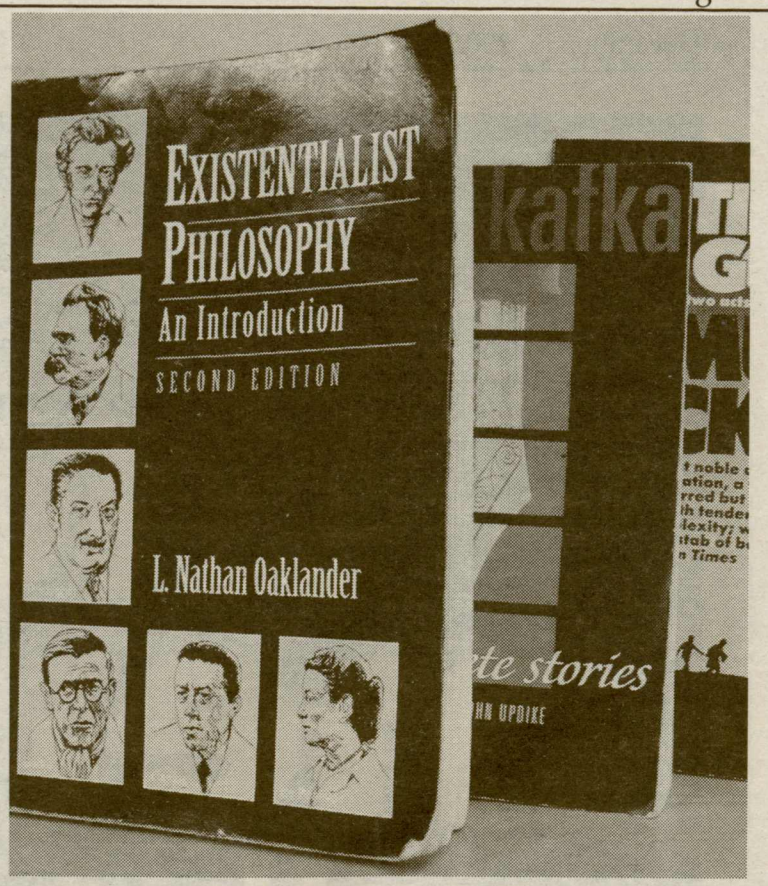
Only one person has reported a book stolen this semester, George Hacking, director of Public Safety, said. Hacking sent out an e-mail to the LSC campus warning them of the possibility of having their books stolen and turned in for money. This is Hacking's first year at LSC and he was informed of the practice by other people, hence the e-mail.

To foil book thieves, Hacking recommended students write their names on the sides of their books, the part with the pages, not the binding. That way the pages can't simply be torn out. Most students only write their names on the inside cover. A person stealing the book merely has to remove the front page. Crossed out names and torn front pages are red flags for a stolen book, Hacking said.

If a student has to leave a book unattended, Hacking recommended having a friend keep any eye on it.

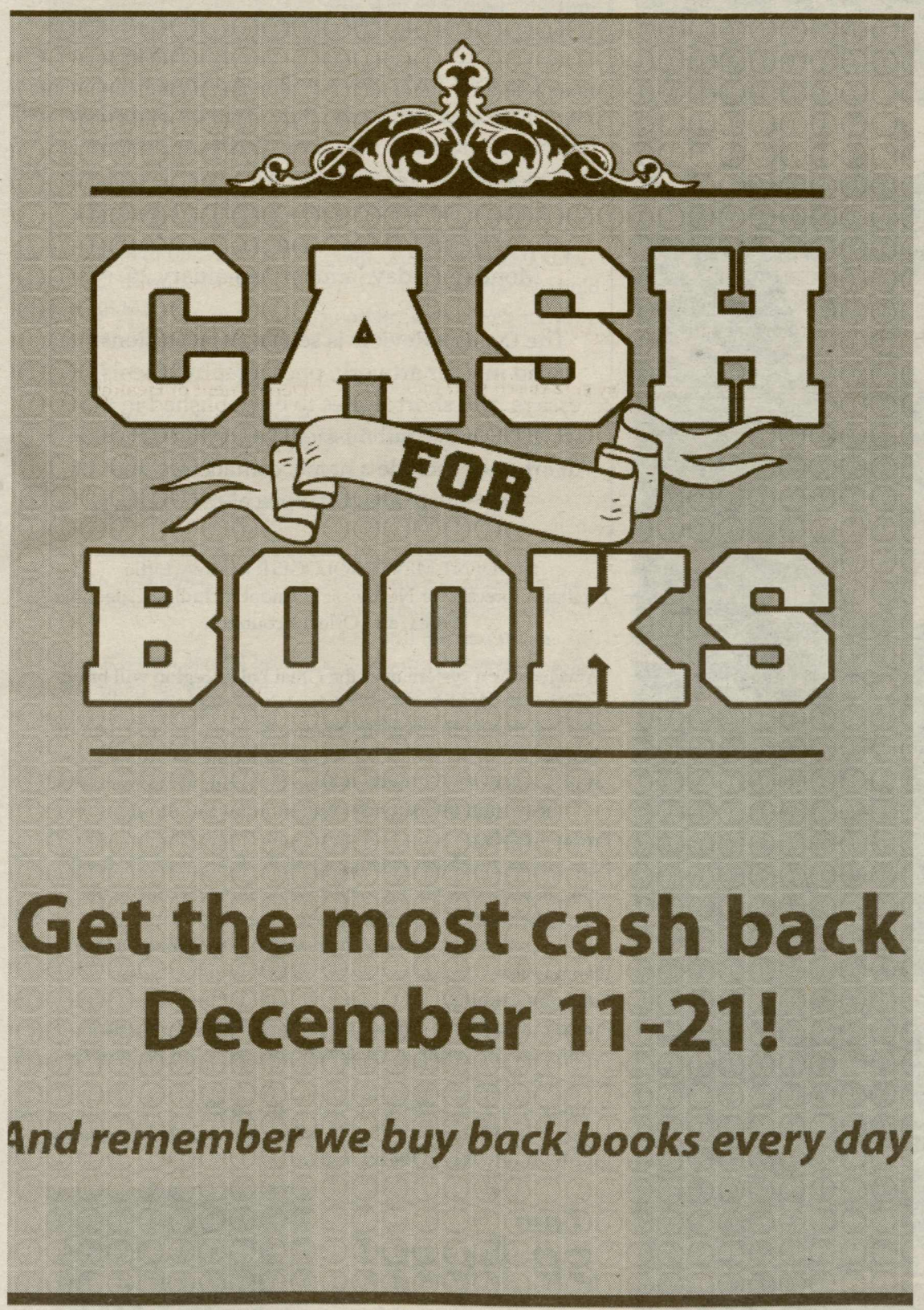
Steve Rheaume, LSC book store manager, said that names and ID numbers are kept track of when buying and selling books, so suspicious activity can be followed up on.

If a person is caught stealing a book, Student Life takes an interest, Hacking said. Also, a victim of book theft can choose to press charges against the thief with the state police, and so can LSC.



Joshua James Gervais, Critic Staff

The theft of student textbooks has been an issue on campus. George Hacking, Director of Public Safety, recommends for students to put their names on the sides of their books.



LSC gets back to the basics with business program

By DANIELLE SYKES
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

The Business Administration major has the most students enrolled in its degree program this year, according to statistics gathered at the beginning of the semester.

There are 121 students enrolled as Business majors. Education comes in second totaling 119 students followed by Television Studies majors with 118 students. Last year Television Studies was the most popular major, followed by Education and then Business Administration.

"About 25 percent of students who graduate from LSC have either a Business major, second degree or minor in Business,"Linda Mitchell, head of the Business Department said.

"The Business Administration Department includes an Accounting major and Small Business Management and Entrepreneurship major," Mitchell said. Students majoring in these fields are included in the Business Administration Department, but are counted in separate Accounting and Small Business major categories.

The Business Administration Department has teamed up with the Psychology Department and has hopes to introduce a new minor in Nonprofit Management.

The Business Administration Department is setting up a program for students wishing to become Certified Public Accountants. Students would be able to earn a master's degree in one year upon graduating from LSC, depending on their level of preparation.

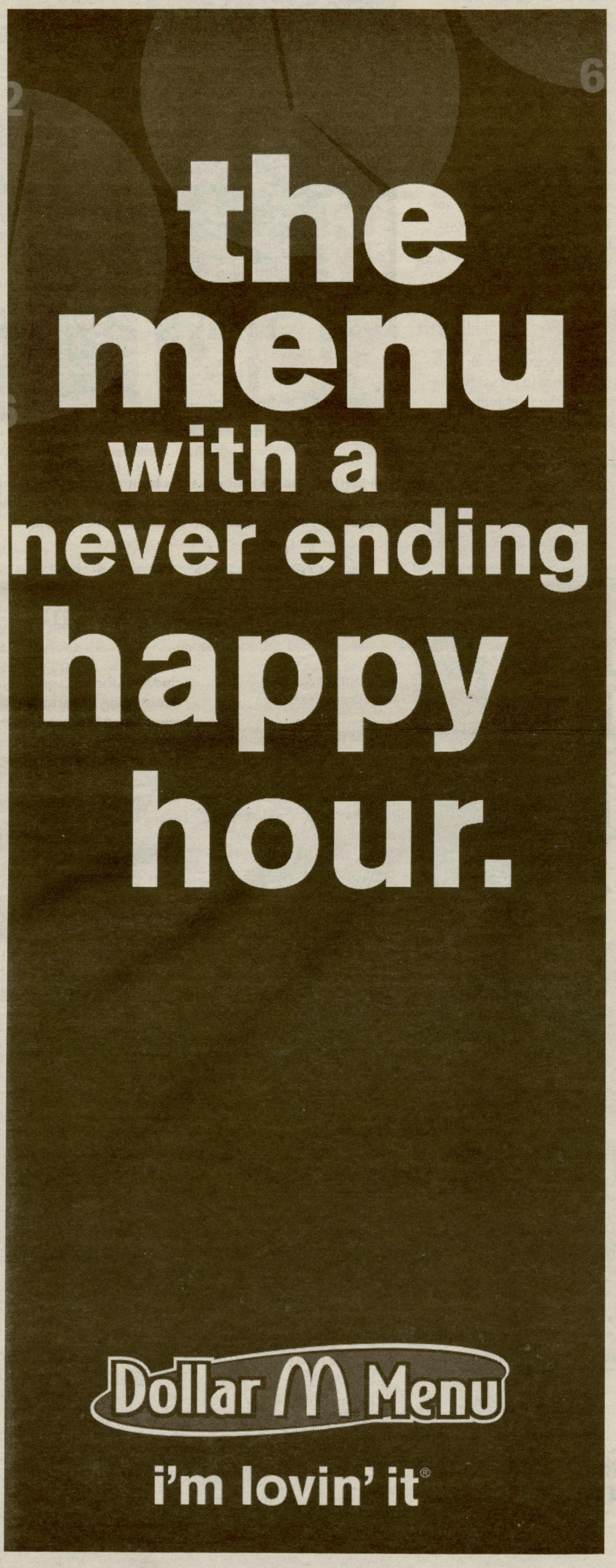
The Business department is working to offer a Management Accounting major for students who want to do financial work within a company.

The Business department is planning to expand its offerings to include more classes in economics, finance and investment, Mitchell said.

Public safety director George Hacking would like to remind drivers that winter roads can be very dangerous. Hacking would also like to remind drivers that winter roads can be very dangerous.

"Nothing is going to beat snow or ice," Hacking said. "Mother Nature is always going to win, no matter how good of a driver you think you are."

- Increasing the distance between your vehicle and a vehicle in front of you.
- Use your Antilock Brake System properly (don't pump them, disregard the pulsing felt in the brake pedal
- Be careful of shadows on the road that cause wet spots which may glaze over with ice.



Holiday Messages

To Everyone at LSC:
The holidays are not always an easy time for everyone. Sickness, troubles, and cares of life do not take a day off. If you or your loved ones are having a hard time, I would wish for you the gift of HOPE. May the New Year bring a promise of better days to come, and your acceptance of life as it is. May you all find some peace and serenity.
God Bless You.
Harry

Wishing all families out there happy holidays,
especially those protecting us overseas who are unable to see their families this holiday season.
Anthony

The LSC AMS NWA will be holding the annual winter ball in the Bole Gym on Saturday January 27 from 8 p.m.-1 a.m. This year's theme is "the snoball". Tickets cost $22 for a couple and $12 for a single. At the door, the tickets will cost $24 per couple and $14 for a single. The sale runs Monday-Friday January 15-January 26.

The Lyndon Review is seeking applications. Send in your artwork, photography, poems, essays, and short stories to be published in the spring. Send all submissions to Joshua Gervais. All art must include a name, contact info and the genre of the piece.

STUDENT METEOROLOGIST: Andrew Little
The latest forecast for Northeast Vermont including Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans counties.

A weak storm system over the Great Lakes region will bring scattered rain showers on Friday before changing to snow showers during the overnight hours. Snowfall accumulations will be less than an inch. As this system quickly exits our region, a ridge of high pressure from the south, will provide us with mild temperatures for Saturday and Sunday.

Friday Evening:
Rain and Snow Showers High: 42-46 F Rain showers developing late, then changing over to snow showers during the overnight hours. Winds from the west around 5 mph with gust up to 20 mph in localized areas. Snowfall amounts less than an inch.

Saturday Evening:
Mostly Sunny Low: 31-36 F High: 37-42 F Cloudy skies becoming mostly sunny in the afternoon hours. Winds from the west at 5-10 mph.

Sunday Evening: Mostly Cloudy Low: 24-29 F
High: 38-42 F Increasing clouds during the day, then becoming mostly cloudy late in the afternoon.

LSC dance team looks to win competition

By ELIZABETH STRAUSS
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

Lyndon State College's dance team is an officially recognized club which currently has 15 female members; however the club is open to both men and women.

Dance team members are not the same as cheerleaders. "Cheerleaders are focused on crowd involvement, and getting the crowd excited," dance team advisor Donna Keely said. "Dancers are meant to entertain the crowd."

Next semester the team will attend its first regional competition. Keely's expectations are high. She expects her team "to win it". If that goal is accomplished, they would be the first collegiate team in the state to win a regional competition. The group will travel to Massachusetts in March.

The dance team performs at all men's and women's home basketball games, as well as special events such as Spring Day, the annual AMS Talent Show and an annual recital held at the end of the spring semester.

There are no auditions, anyone may join the team. Out from the larger group, a smaller select group will be chosen to attend the upcoming competition.

The dance team practices a minimum of nine hours every week, including a three-hour practice on Sundays and three two-hour practices during the week. This is in addition to the time spent performing at basketball games.

The dance team also holds fund raisers. Recently they held a dance clinic open to area children. The event was open to kids enrolled in kindergarten through eighth grade and attracted 80 kids. The dance team plans to hold another clinic in February.

Donna Keely, Photo

Top row from left: Jasmine Fuller, Stormie Griffin, Courtney Rosemond, Amanda Jones, Kate Donovan, Breanna Ayer-Senser, Heather Keough. Middle row from left: Jessica Millhiser, Kristi Royer, Jackie Perron. Bottom row from left: Katie Ketcham, Karen Murray, Ashley Rabidoux, and Jenn Lemaire. Missing from photo: Chelsey Finigan.

Let the holiday season chow-fest commence

By JESSICA MILLHISER
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

"The holidays are the best time for me to eat and I love it because you can eat whatever you want and not worry about it," said Laura Sullivan, LSC junior.

So I get it, I'm guilty of it too; you're stressed, finals are coming up, everyone and their mother is throwing a holiday party and you're always stuck eating chips, cake, those tasty sugar cookies with that amazing frosting on them, punch and all of those other yummy things that later, your body is going to be hating you for.

So how do you dodge the chow-fest during this time of year?

According to an exercise Web site, there are a few keys to maintaining healthy eating habits during the holidays. "Never hit a holiday party on an empty stomach. You'll be less tempted to overindulge if you're belly's full of something healthy. Choose one treat [and] make it something you only get during the holidays."

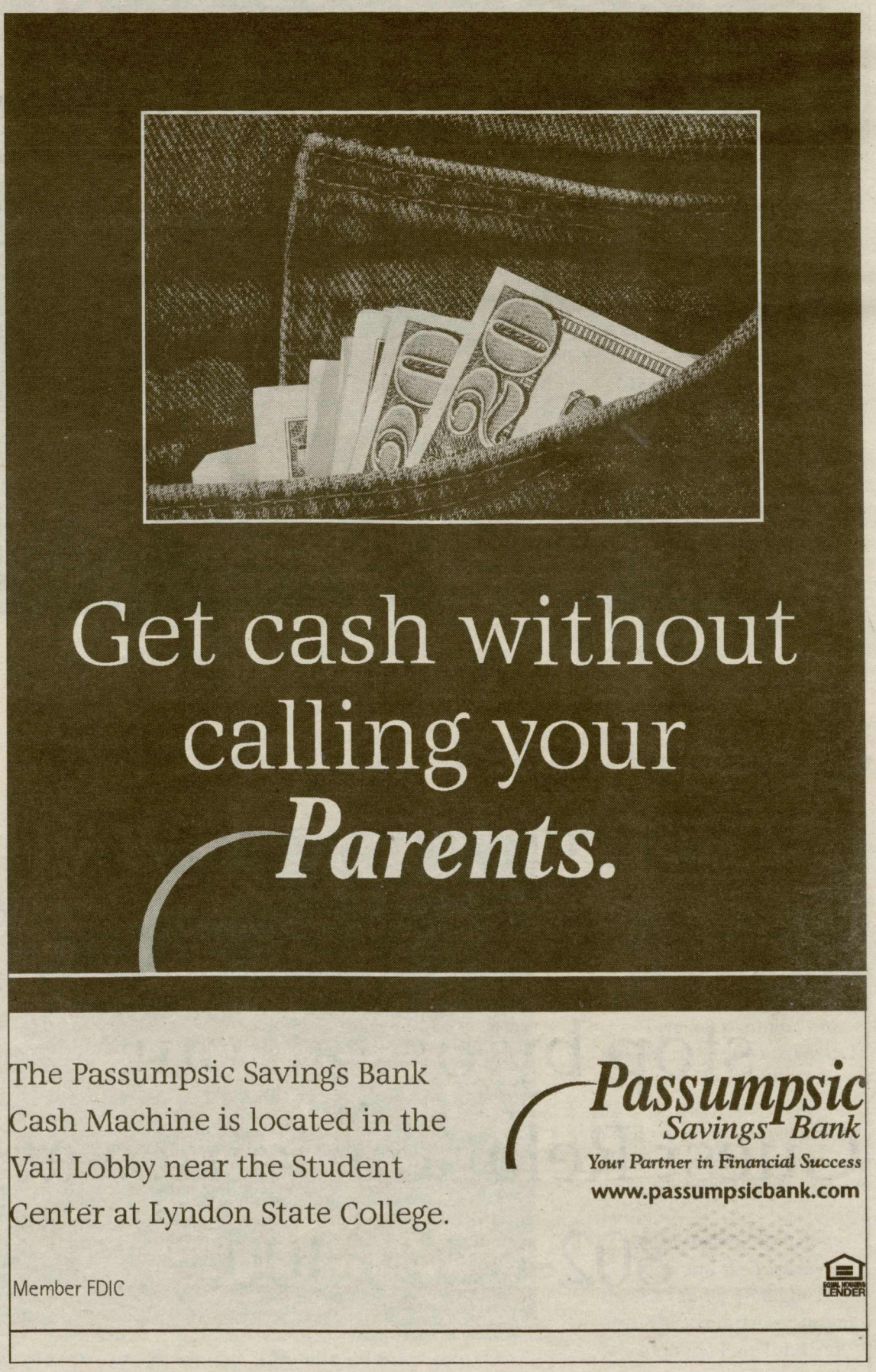
On a Medical news Web site, it gives suggestions for some great holiday treats while still maintaining a semi-healthy objective. A few of the goodies you can allow yourself are: squash, cruciferous vegetables, sweet potatoes, and pumpkin pie. "It is possible to enjoy great tasting, low calorie meals."

Kerrin Jeromin, junior, commented on her eating habit during the holidays. "I love it. I went through an entire tin of holiday cookies in a day and a half. I also love clementine's, those are sort of holiday-ish."

Lars Christensen, senior, said, "I love eating cake during the holidays. It's always fun to go back home over break and eat all of the comfort food you ate as a child."

Mary Etter, Learning Specialist, said, "I eat more treats, but I do try to eat enough healthy food and stay busy enough to make it okay. Sweet potato and marshmallow casserole is my favorite."

Clearly, it is evident that most people don't maintain a healthy eating habit during the holidays. But it's okay, if everyone eats the same way, we'll all be fat together.



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THE CRITIC

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Lyndonville, Vermont | Friday, January 26, 2007 | Volume 53, Number 10

Inside

NEWS

Jeffery Green is no longer an assistant professor of Mathematics and Computer Science at LSC. Green's reasons for leaving were varied but the policy enacted by the VSC Chancellor in April of 2006 was the last straw for Green. **Pg 2**

Gordon Haym, a professor of Business Administration at LSC, handed in his resignation over the winter break.

Haym resigned for personal reasons, John Kascenska, assistant academic dean, said.

Haym's resignation was made public in an email sent to the entire campus by LSC President Carol Moore.

Pg 4

DINGDONGS & GOOFBALLS

President George W. Bush was interviewed by Scott Pelley on 60 Minutes a few weeks ago, and Bush couldn't seem any more out of touch with reality. During Pelley's introduction to his segment on Bush, he said that anybody watching this interview will see that Bush is still a man who is "determined to follow his own path"…no matter how wrong that path might be.

Pg 3

SPORTS

The Lyndon State Hornets men's basketball team has turned things around dramatically to start the spring semester.

Despite some early struggles that saw the team lose seven of its first nine games, one of its top scorers and its primary ball handler, the Hornets have won each of their last four games and are now 4-2 since the semester break.

Pg 7

Student Government VP Resigns

Ferguson steps down from seat to focus on academics

By MARY WHEELER
EDITOR

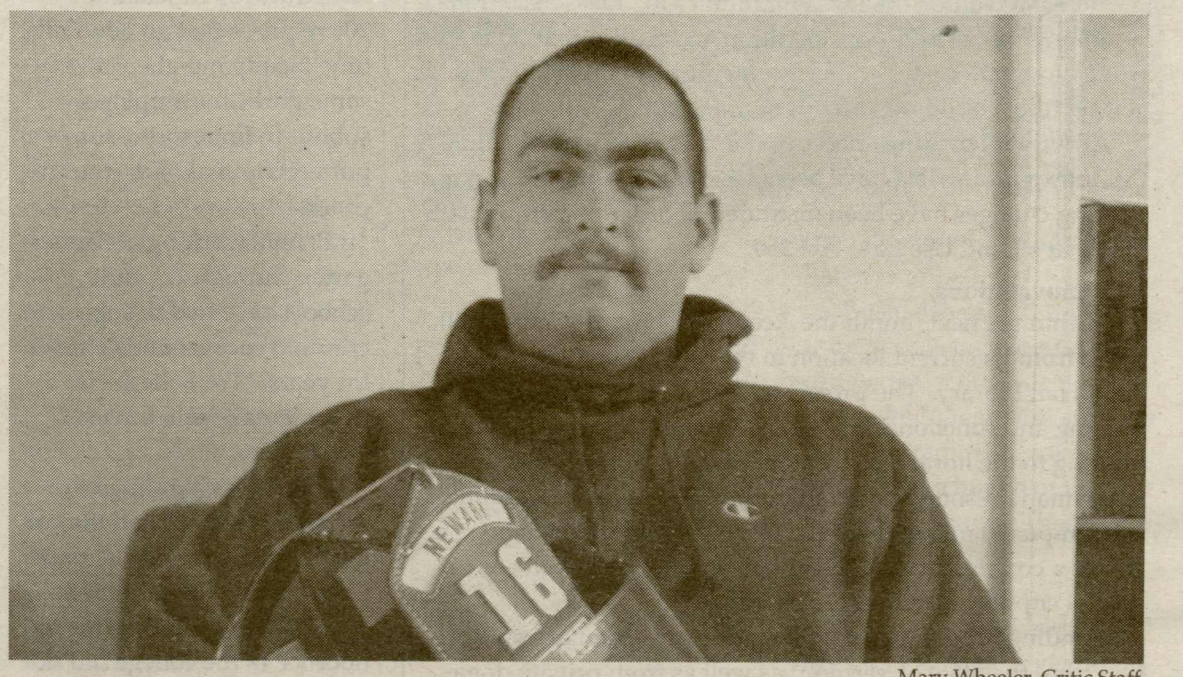
Chris Ferguson, vice president of the LSC Student Government Association, resigned from the position on January 12.

In his resignation letter, Ferguson cited academics as the major reason for his departure. "As many of you know I will not be returning to LSC next year and I need to concentrate on my academics so I can go into [Anna Maria College in Massachusetts] with excellent standing," the letter read.

Ferguson, who had petitioned to impeach current President Lars Christensen back in November for violating several obligations stated in the SGA constitution, didn't follow through with the process.

Ferguson had collected 120 signatures out of the 140 (10% of the student body) required by the SGA constitution for the impeachment to be valid and voted on by the House and Senate. Ferguson said that the overall communication between Executive Board members had become much better, as well as how effective the meetings were being run. Due to the changes that were being made, Ferguson didn't feel it necessary to continue with the impeachement process.

"I liked working with everyone and I especially liked working on important student issues," Ferguson said.



Mary Wheeler, Critic Staff

Chris Ferguson, SGA Vice President, recently resigned from the position to concentrate on academics.

"Once I started collecting signatures, a lot of good things began to happen. It was kind of a wake-up call for everyone. My point was made and things were changing," he said.

On the announcement of the resignation, per the constitution, Christensen appointed senior senator Jeremy Lacey as the Interim vice president to fill the position for two weeks. Christensen stated that Lacey's good grades, respect from the student body, and knowledge of the SGA policies made him a solid candidate for the temporary position.

"I have no doubt that Jeremy Lacey will serve the school, the students and the SGA with distinction, integrity, and dedication. It's a shame that Chris had to leave, and I hold nothing against him," Christensen said.

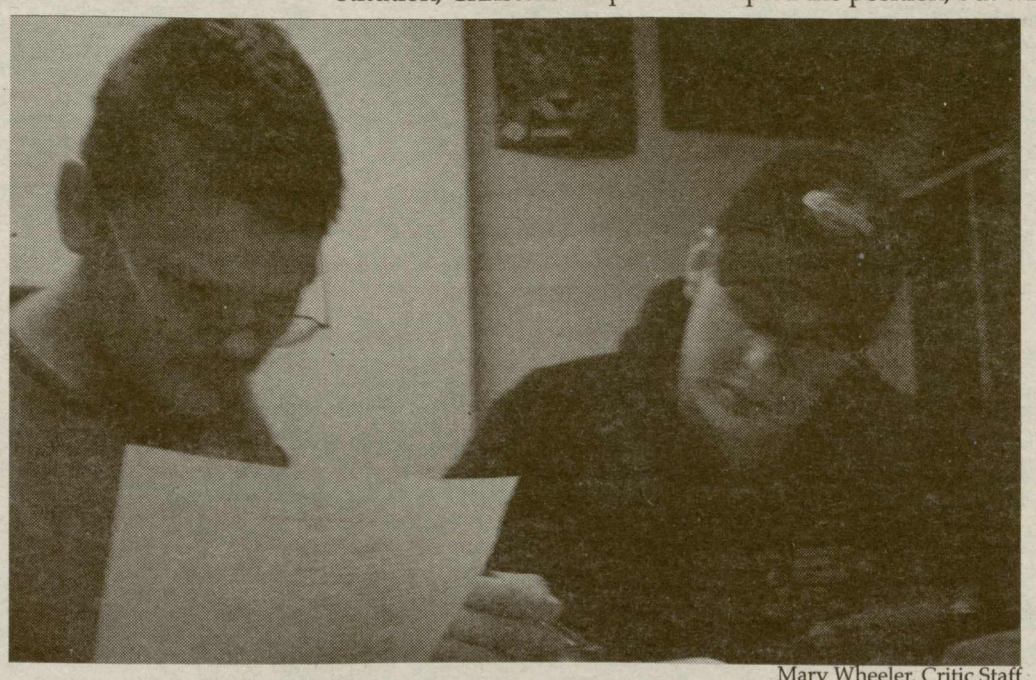
Lacey who has served on the senate for four years, accepted the position, but will not be seeking the official vice president position once his Interim is up. Lacey accepted the position because he felt that his experience on Senate and knowledge of how the meetings run would benefit the SGA.

"The biggest thing for me is to regain the trust and respect from the students, faculty, staff and the administration," Lacey said. "Chris served the students of LSC faithfully during his semester in office. I would have liked to have seen him continue but academics come first."

Ferguson, who plans on transfering in the fall to study fire sciences, found the decision to leave the SGA difficult. Ferguson feels confident that Lacey will do a good job filling the spot until elections are held due to his experiences and knowledge of the SGA.

"I wasn't planning on transferring last year when I ran and I would still love to be involved in the SGA. I liked working with everyone and I especially liked working on important student issues," he said.

Elections will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday in the Alexander Twilight Theatre. The candidates running are: Melinda Fay, Tim Lavigne, and Adam Tracy.



Mary Wheeler, Critic Staff

Jeremy Lacey and Lars Christensen work on a House agenda Tuesday evening. Lacey has filled in as Interim Vice President until the official elections are held next week.

News Briefs

Parking:

The parking habits of the LSC community has caused George Hacking, director of Public Safety, some frustration.

"Having now witnessed, for the first time, just how bad some people park after a little snow let me issue a warning to all about inappropriate, illegal, or inconsiderate parking," Hacking said in a mass email to the LSC community. "If you block a fire lane or create a third row of parking, thereby not allowing the now newly created middle row from leaving, you will be towed."

Hacking recognized that his email may have sounded angry at first, but wanted to make it clear that it was merely frustration. "It isn't really anger, just frustration, but my frustration is nothing compared to those who are now locked into their parking spot," Hacking said in the second half of his email.

Hacking wanted the LSC community to "Please use some common sense, a little consideration and realize that no matter where you park on this campus you are not that far away from getting into a building and out of the weather."

Additional parking spaces in the Wheelock and Rita Bole Complex parking lots have been designated as public parking. Parking changes have been instituted in order to comply with Vermont's Land Use Law, Act 250.

Renovatations:

Within the next month the Academic Support Center will move from its current location in the Vail Center to the Samuel Read Hall Library. The project will not only result in a more inviting and functional space for Academic Support, but by relocating to the library, the center will have much better access to the many resources offered there. The Advisory Committee on Campus Planning offered a series of public meetings on facilities a couple of years ago and this project received a great deal of support during those meetings.

Funding for the project will come from a capital appropriation from the State of Vermont as well as from private donations, many of which are already in hand or pledged. A design team will begin working with an architect in February and the renovations are expected to completed during the summer of 2007.

Resignation:

Mimi McCaffrey recently resigned from her position as assistant dean for Admissions. Mimi has accepted a position as marketing manager at NVRH.

Mimi started her career in Student Services at Lyndon in 1996 immediately following graduation. She then moved to Admissions as a counselor and was subsequently made director and eventually assistant dean.

Professor Green leaves LSC over fingerprints

By KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
MANAGING EDITOR

Jeffery Green is no longer an assistant professor of Mathematics and Computer Science at LSC.

Green's reasons for leaving were varied but the policy enacted by the VSC Chancellor in April of 2006 was the last straw for Green. Policy 208 requires that all new full-time faculty members and some part-time employees submit to fingerprint-supported criminal background checks.

People working at Kindergarten through 12 grade schools have had to submit to criminal backgrounds checks for years. "For colleges it doesn't make much sense," Green said.

The understanding between a professor and the college is one of two equal parts, Green said. The fact that he was expected to prove his innocence to the college did not sit well with him.

Green's stance is that college students are adults and professors are not supposed to be considered caretakers. "At the college level it doesn't seem quite right," Green said. "I'm still more from the day where it was between two people."

"The problem is, the world is getting more company oriented," Green said, in referring to many other college systems adopting similar background check policies.

Policy 208 only affects people who answered job applications prior to July 1 2006, Julie Theoret, associate professor of Mathematics and Computer Science, said. Meaning anyone who works at LSC prior to that date did not have to undergo a background check.

Specifically, those affected by the policy are people who have been offered full-time positions, including student workers who only work part-time. The fingerprint-supported criminal background checks are aimed at people who work near residence halls, day care centers and "other programs or facilities where vulnerable populations are known to congregate," according to the policy.

"I'm a little torn," Theoret said. "We want to keep our students safe. I don't think we've had anyone with criminal backgrounds."

According to policy 208 "The applicants for employment shall pay the cost of the criminal background checks. However, in the case of hiring for the Chancellor's office, the Chancellor or designee. And in the case of a member College, the President or designee may agree to cover the cost of the checks in designated hardship."

"I have a fundamental problem with the applicant having to pay for themselves," Theoret said, when speaking of what she didn't like about the policy.

Green did not cite the cost of the background check as being one of his major issues with it.

It takes time to process a criminal background check. Section D of the policy allows for the colleges affected by it to hire applicants and allow them to work while the check is being processed.

If an employee is found to have a criminal background the decision to revoke their application is made on a case-by-case basis. According to the policy "The decision shall weigh the severity of the criminal offense, the relationship between the duties of the position in question, the age of the offender at the time of the offense, the remoteness in time of the offense, and evidence of remorse and rehabilitation."

Those who currently work in the VSC system and have not undergone a background check due to being hired prior to July 1, 2006 need not get one unless they take a new position in the VSC system that would also require a background check.

College Honors

President's List

Raymond Hauver
Alex Jacques
Robert Martin
Bonnie Paris
Samantha Ramsey
Sharon Zec

Dean's List

Ashley Ames
Kristen Anderson
Nichole Arel
Julian Arp-Sandel
Tonia Aussiker
Ashley Bailey
Trevor Barski
Bethany Bartlett
Lisa Batchelder
Nicole Bathalon
Margaret Beadle
Karen Belknap
Wesley Bell
Lance Berry
Jordan Bessette
Jeremiah Bias
Natalie Bisbee
Kimberlie Blaisdell
Katherine Bleau
Tasia Bolduc
Alex Bowen
Jeanna Bowen
Rebecca Braley
Sierra Bridges
Justin Brittell
Jenna Brouillard
Kaitlyn Brown
Seth Brown
Karen Bunnell
Jeffrey Burnett
Angela Calkins
Lyndsay Calkins
Ashley Camber
Liane Carson
Rachele Catell
Leslie Cherrington
Samantha Choquette
Amy Clausen
Jennifer Cohun
Elizabeth Conklin
Robert Conklin
Bryanna Considine
Angelica Costin
David Coyne
Jonathan Cunningham
Hilairy Deblois
Scott Desjardins
Jeffrey Dickinson
Angela DiMillo
Jennifer Driver
David Dumais
Jillian Dupuis
Ann Durgin
Gregory Dutra
Lindsay Eastman
Brian Eddy
Dillon Eliassen
Jessica Elie
Clarissa Elliott
Karissa Fadden
Stephen Fanelli
Nicole Foster
Eric Gagne
Heather Gandin
James Gibbons
Ashley Giddix
Randi Gosselin
Chad Grant
Trevor Greene
Eric Guillot
Rachel Guilmette
Katie Hale
Jillian Hall
Andrew Hamblett
Nicole Hart
Jessica Harvey
Dane Haskell
Rebecca Hauff
Lawerence Hayes III
Emily Hazard
Krystal-Lynn Hazlett
Whitney Henault
Elizabeth Hibshman
Erin Hoefel
Corinna Holden
Brittney Holland
Alex Hudson
John Johnson
Michelle Johnston
Erica Kelleher
Kevin Kelly
Renee Kelly
Ashley Kennison
Katie Ketcham
Rafae Khan
Bonnie King
Jaime Kinnarney
Eric Kirk
Andrew Koch
Joel Lacoss
Bryan Lane
Jaclyn Levesque
Jean Loiselle
Jennifer Lyons
Philip MacAskill
Richard Maliawco
Jessica Maple
Tyler Marcotte
Jacob Mardin
Kelly Mason
Sarah McLaughlin
Ashley McVeigh
Shane Meaney
Justin Mellot
Jenny Miller
Chrystal Monahan
Megan Monette
Gillian Moore
Benjamin Muller
Matthew Odette
Ian Oliver
Michael Ouellette
Michael Paul
Robert Penney
Robyn Peterson
Eric Phillips
Evan Plankey
James Politis
Lauren Potter
Monique Priestley
Daniel Pulsford
Richard Putnam
Carrie Quinn
Christina Quintal
Jessica Rexford
Rosemary Rifenburgh
Jennifer Ripley
Debra Rogers
Tracy Rogers
Angela Roy
Adam Rutt
Audrey Saucier
Jessica Savage
Kerri Sgarlata
John Shanks
Timothy Sleeper
Jason Smith
Paul Snyder
Christ Stacy
Kali Imari-Stoddard
Danielle Sykes
Krystal Tardif
Alexander Theberge
Robert Thompson
Daniel Travis
Stephen Vasquez
Richard Walker
Teresa Walton
Kelly Warren
Mary Wheeler
Keith Whitcomb Jr.
Jennifer White
Sarah Wiley
Jennifer Williams
Kerrin Wilmarth
Elizabeth Wilson
Jasmine Wilson
Sarah Wimans
Amanda Winter
Amanda Woodard
Amanda Young

Moments Like This: It Could be Me

By TRISH PENNYPACKER
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

I saw her yesterday in the grocery store; she didn't look any different than she had looked fifteen years ago when I used to sing in the church choir, and she would sit in the fourth row, between lovable Mrs. Morrison and the sleepy deacon, Mr. Harris. Her walk had gotten a bit slower and her lipstick was a shade brighter than I remembered, or perhaps her flesh had just gotten paler; nonetheless, her bouffant, grey-hair was pinned neatly, and the eyes that peered at me beneath blue-shadowed lids were still sharp.

I had always considered her to be flamboyant and nosey. Usually I scanned parking lots for her white Lincoln before I was willing to park my car. In a room full of people, I could easily spot her long, crimson wool coat, and was often able to discreetly escape the clutches of her red nails before she realized that I had been present; however, this time I had been too preoccupied to notice her presence, and by the time I saw her, it was too late to avoid her.

Looking for a place to hide, I quickly scanned the isle, but before I could disappear behind a display of Keebler cookies, I heard her hoarse voice call out, "Oh, I am so glad to see you." I tried to choke down my sigh of despair as her bony, ruby-painted fingers grasped my hand tightly. She smelled of talc powder and Oriental spice; a smell that was both nauseating and intriguing.

With a nod, she looked me over and smiled, her lips pursed to restrain her eagerness for conversation. Her eyes did not leave mine, and for a second I thought she could hear my mind begging her to go away.

With a detached patience, granted to me only by the glory of time, I listened to her announcement that her eighteenth grandchild was just born; she now had nine great- grandchildren, and her grandson, Nathan was about to take a prestigious job in Cape Canaveral. She wasn't certain what he did exactly, but she thought he was working for the government.

I tried not to look at my watch. When the enthusiasm of her voice began to fade, I noticed a change come over her, as though her mind had shifted.

"I don't see them much anymore," she sighed as she looked at me in confusion. "They live all over the place. Jeannette's in South Carolina you know, and Lydia's moved out to Arizona after her divorce. Such a shame, Frank was the best thing that ever happened to her." Her voice dropped into a childish tone as she batted away the tear that threatened to mar her carefully lined eyes.

It was difficult to believe that this tiny woman had actually birthed seven children. Watching the black cluster of pearls bob against her ear lobe, I imagined her ears straining to hear the voices of her family, listening for the echo of their childhood.

"I don't really blame them though," she added as she shifted her body closer to mine. "The winters are long and cold here and they seem to enjoy the warmer climate."

She looked around the corner for her husband; he had disappeared from her sight. I felt her need to find him, to hold onto him as she finished her shopping, and to lean on him as he aided her footing across the slushy parking lot and helped her into their Lincoln. She squeezed my shoulder before she turned to find him. "I know life is busy," she whispered. "I, too, was young once."

I watched her shuffle away. As natural as the sigh that escaped my own lips, I understood that someday, sooner than I would like, my own children will probably scatter; their lives caught in a chaotic bustle, much like my life now is.

I finished my shopping, and as I walked outside, the cold wind slapped me in the face. Lifting the hood of my parka, I drew it around my ears, drowning out the wind. I expected to see the Lincoln still in the parking lot, but it was gone.

Shivering as I searched for my keys, I realized how much this tiny, exuberant woman and I are alike. In becoming mothers, we surrendered a great part of our individuality; together we are torn between forever wanting to keep our children within our reach, and being proud to see them succeed on their own. I fear that when my children move on, I too will replace the echo of their voices with my own lonesome chatter; but if I am lucky, there will always be someone kind enough to listen.

Letter Policy:

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LSC Box #7951
Lyndonville, Vt. 05851

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DINGDONGS AND GOOFBALLS

By DILLON ELIASSEN
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

President George W. Bush was interviewed by Scott Pelley on 60 Minutes a few weeks ago, and Bush couldn't seem any more out of touch with reality. During Pelley's introduction to his segment on Bush, he said that anybody watching this interview will see that Bush is still a man who is "determined to follow his own path"…no matter how wrong that path might be.

When asked by Pelley what mistakes had been made by Bush and his administration regarding the war in Iraq, Bush responded by saying that "Abu Ghraib was a mistake. Using bad language, like, you know, 'Bring 'em on!' was a mistake." Really? I would've thought that an answer to that question would've contained something about Iraq's lack of WMDs, or the lack of credible evidence between 9/11 and Saddam Hussein, not so much Bush's stupid catchphrases about getting those freedom hating terrorists.

Bush said a lot of stupid things in the interview, like that everybody was wrong about Hussein having WMDs. Well, the people who were saying Hussein didn't have WMDs weren't wrong. The people who were convinced that Hussein did have WMDs were wrong. People like Bush.

"These people have a plan, they have a vision of the world," Bush asserted on 60 minutes. "And they intend to use murder to enact their vision." A cynical person like myself might take Bush's statement about extremists in the Middle East and use it to describe his administration's current foreign policy. But then I'd sound like a freedom hater.

Bush also said "I think the Iraqi people owe the American people a huge debt of gratitude." Yeah, I'm sure the average Iraqi citizen wants to send us all a bunch of thank you cards saying "Thanks for the war."

In 2002, Dubya called Hussein "the guy who tried to kill my dad." The next year Bush 43 ordered the invasion of Iraq. Our glorious and charismatic leader should learn a lesson from this bogged down occupation of Iraq so that if and when he wants to invade Iran or North Korea (he's got two more years in office), he decides to have Kim Jong Il and Mahmoud Ahmadinejad assassinated. Officially the U.S. Government doesn't use assassination as a means of removing foreign heads of state, but I bet that if Bush had ordered Hussein assassinated, we wouldn't be in this Iraqi quagmire.

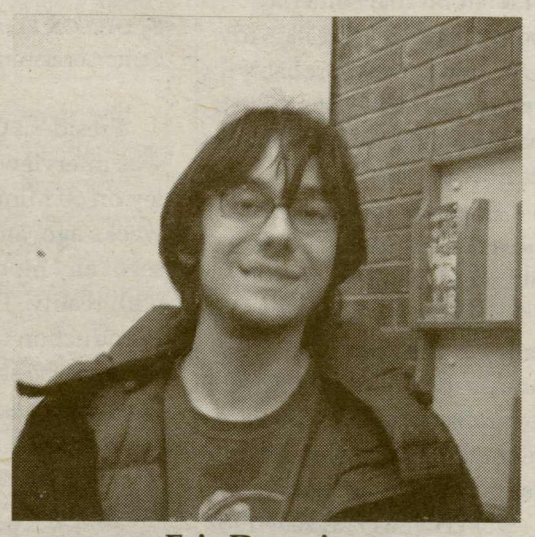
Remember at the end of "The Godfather" when Michael Corleone is becoming godfather to his sister's baby, and at the same time his button men are out whacking Tattaglia, Barzini and the other heads of the Five Families? Imagine this scene: Bush 43 is at a church, standing as the godfather of Dick Cheney's lesbian daughter's baby, and during the ceremony, CIA operatives kill Il and Ahmadinejad. Americans love Hollywood, so let's Hollywood up the way America deals with dictators we don't like. Bush wanted Hussein out of power; he should've just done it the quick and easy way with a bullet to Hussein's head. Or a grenade in his mouth, whatever looks cooler.

Tell Us: What did you think of the Matriculation Ceremony on January 18?

Jonathan Brinkerhoff
"It was nice seeing our whole class come together."

Amy Ferland
"I found it really boring. All these ceremonies seem to be the same. How many times do we have to be welcomed?"

Matt Conklin
"The best part was the first annual outstanding young alumni award. It was good to see the acheivements of other LSC graduates."



Eric Downing
"I really liked the bag pipes. It was also nice seeing the professors all dressed up."

Recipe of the Week: Blueberry Pancakes

Prep time: 20 minutes

Ingredients:

* 3/4 c. flour
* 1 tbsp. sugar
* 1 tsp. baking powder
* 1/2 tsp. salt
* 1 tbsp. margarine
* 1 egg
* 3/4 c. milk
* 1/2 c. blueberries, washed and drained
* extra margarine for the pan

Directions:

1. In a large bowl, sift together the flour, sugar, baking powder, and salt. Set the bowl aside.
2. Melt the margarine in a small saucepan.
3. Crack the egg into a medium-size bowl, then add the milk and melted margarine.
4. Whisk until everything is well mixed.
5. Add the flour mixture to the egg mixture. Whisk again until both mixtures are blended together.
6. Put extra margarine in the saucepan and heat it on the stovetop on medium heat. It is hot enough when the margarine starts to bubble.
7. Use a measuring cup or a small ladle to spoon the batter into the pan to make 4 pancakes. Put some blueberries on top of each pancake.
8. Cook your pancakes on medium heat until small bubbles appear on the top.
9. Use a spatula to lift the edge of the pancakes to see whether they're light brown on the bottom. When they are, flip them over with the spatula.
10. Cook for another few minutes until the pancakes are light brown on the other side.
11. Remove your pancakes and put them on plates to enjoy!

Serves: 2
333 calories per pancake

FILM REVIEW: Smells like murder!

By MATT GRAHAM
MINNESOTA DAILY (U. MINNESOTA) (U-WIRE)

What determines the morality of an action? Is a bad act simply a bad act, or is evil only evil if it is committed with actual malice?

This is the primary question behind "Perfume," Tom Tykwer's ("Run Lola Run") adaptation of Patrick Suskind's 1985 novel. The film follows the life of Jean-Baptiste Grenouille (Ben Whishaw), an orphan born in 18th-century Paris gifted with an exceptional sense of smell.

Grenouille's nose is so strong that he doesn't even learn to speak until he's five years old; he's so enamored with the scents around him and he learns to use it as a kind of sonar. There's a lot for him to smell because, as the film's narrator reminds us, Paris in the 1700s was a putrid morass of fish guts, body odor and human waste.

Grenouille runs into trouble when he follows a young merchant girl down a back alley, enamored by her scent. When he accidentally strangles her, he is perturbed to find that her aroma leaves her body with her life.

He enrolls as the apprentice to Italian perfume maker Giuseppe Baldini (Dustin Hoffman) to learn how to keep smells forever. He sees it as his life's mission to preserve such "sublime beauty" from ever vanishing.

Inspired by the legend of an ancient Egyptian perfume that supposedly made all who smelled it feel as though they were in heaven, Grenouille sets out to make the ultimate scent, trying to capture the smells of such items as glass and copper.

His search intensifies when he discovers he has no bodily odor of his own.

Because he identifies everything by its scent, he becomes a man without an identity, and his search for the perfect perfume becomes his search for himself. After much trial and error, he hits on the ingredient he needs: The scent of young, virginal women.

The string of murders that follows brings out the worst in the town's populace, making them turn on one another and shoot people randomly in the streets, suspecting all of being the killer. Meanwhile Grenouille, introverted and cherubic as ever, maintains his single-minded focus of creating the world's greatest perfume.

Tykwer masterfully handles an adaptation that Stanley Kubrick desperately wanted to do but felt to be unfilmable. He creates a world of deeply colored fruits and flowers, clothes and hair, looking almost like a L'Oreal commercial -- everything looks like it has a scent. But credit must be given to the editing of Alexander Berner -- there is minimum camera movement, but Berner pieces together thousands of isolated and oftentimes blurred out shots taken from bizarre angles into a seamless whole and imbues the film with a constant sense of motion.

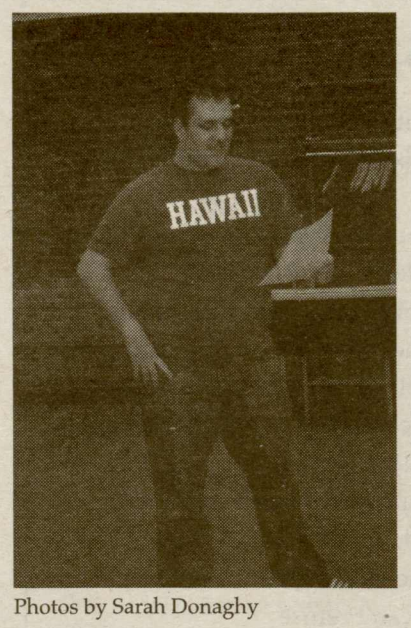
Beginning with the opening sequence depicting Grenouille's comic-but-brutal childhood, which saw him left for dead by his mother as an infant, "Perfume" paints the portrait of a likable serial killer. Grenouille isn't vicious; he's an artist, an entirely unique genius. His goal isn't pain and death, but beauty, love and spiritual exaltation.

One city official, Antoine Richis (Alan Rickman, "Harry Potter") is haunted by the fact that none of the murdered virgins are violated, and, fearing for his own daughter's life, becomes obsessed with trying to get into the criminal's head: "It's as if he's trying to collect their beauty."

Can a killer like Grenouille be condemned? Is he comparable to somebody like John Wayne Gacy, or a run-of-the-mill armed robber? The laws of society say yes, murder is murder and must be punished. But the laws of the mind, of the human spirit, say something different, as the citizens of the city find out when they try to hang Grenouille in the public square and he unleashes his recently completed fragrance upon them, crafted of the essences of thirteen innocent young girls. Can something that brings so much bliss to so many people ever be considered evil?

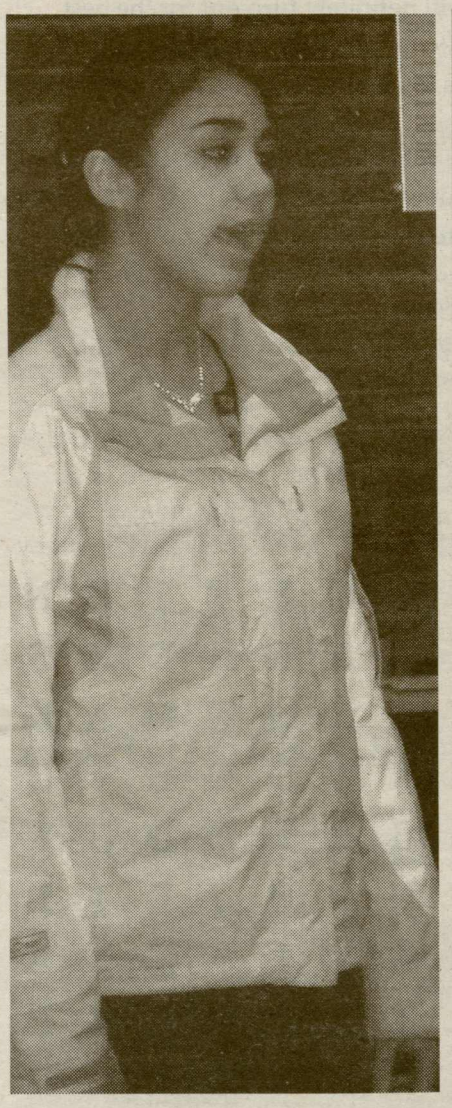
It hardly matters. Bob Dylan once mused "Behind every beautiful thing there's been some kind of pain," and perhaps it's true that the most profound beauty emerges only from the starkest pain. No human judgment can compare to what Grenouille's own existence inflicts upon him: His life's work complete, Grenouille finds himself an empty man, still without the idealized love that was secretly behind all of his actions, still searching for what he was never given, still yearning for what he can never get.

Cabaret casting announced



Photos by Sarah Donaghy

Above Phillip Viens
Below Sarah Kozak



By SARAH DONAGHY
CRITIC STAFF

LSC's Fine and Performing Arts held auditions for the April production of *Cabaret*.

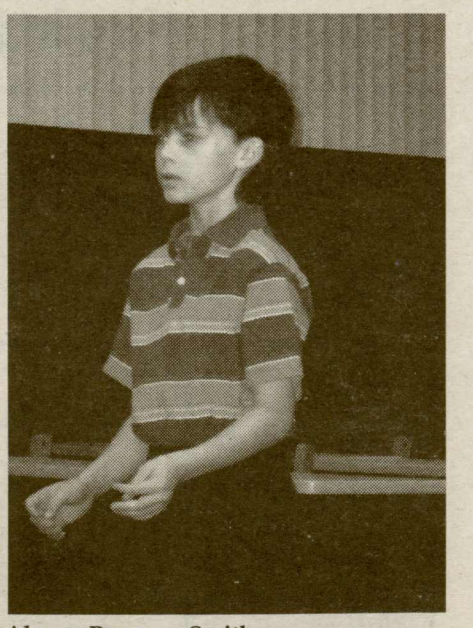
While rehearsals won't begin until March, the cast is already being arranged. The auditions were open to LSC community.

For the main auditions everyone had to come prepared with a song. Many were not necessarily hoping for singing parts but all were asked to try their hand at a piece.

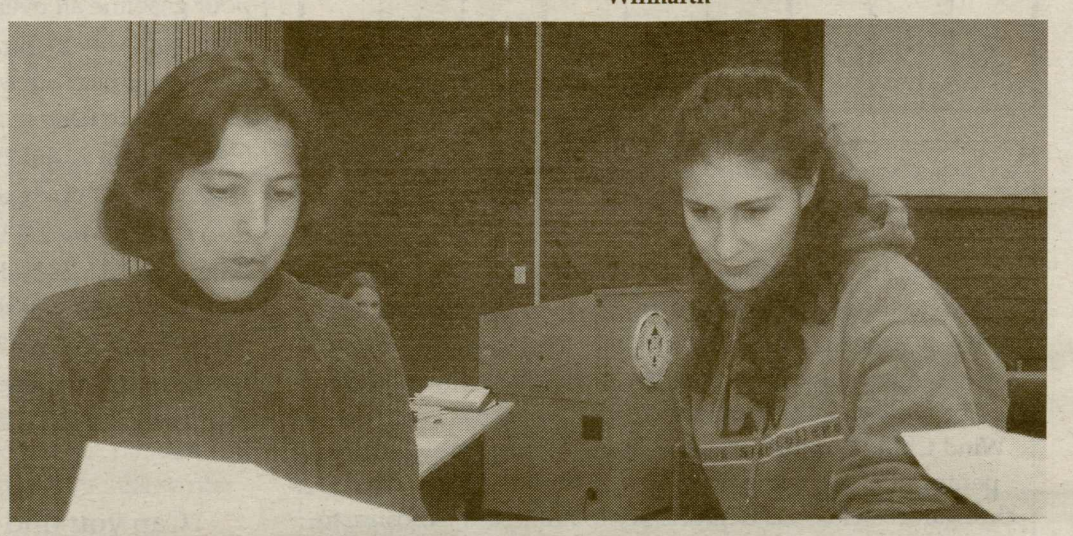
Call backs were held on Wednesday, January 24 and those who attended were evaluated for dancing parts.

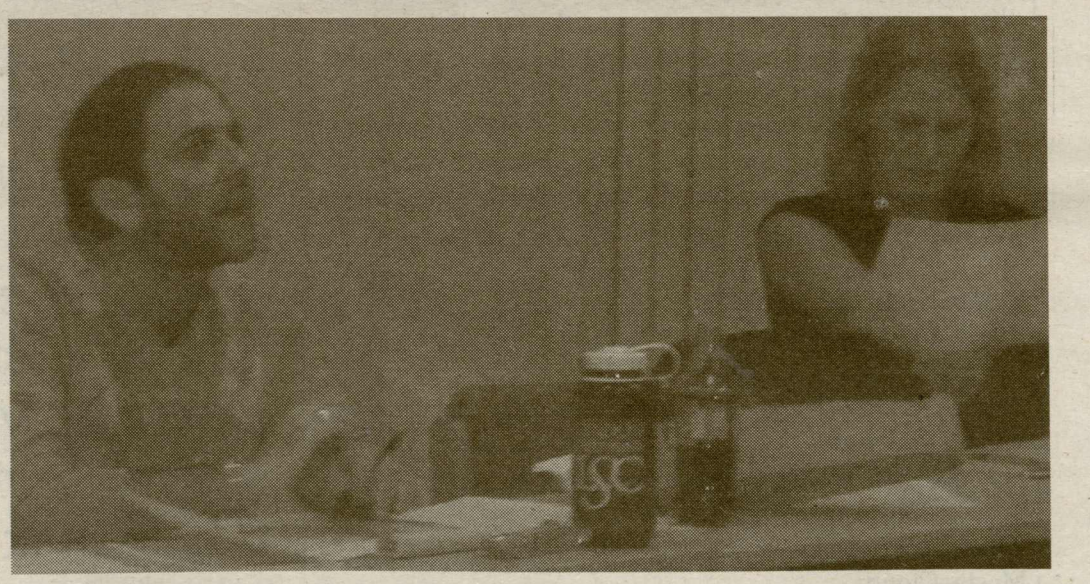
Not all those cast attended the call backs, only those who were being considered for certain cast parts. Unlike the original auditions, those who attended the second auditions were shown what to do and did not need to come with a prepared repertoire.

Emcee.....Matt Randall
Sally Bowles.....Angela DeMillo
Cliff Bradshaw.....Dan Adams
FRL. Schneider.....Pat Jansen
Herr Schultz.....Jan Clausing
Ernst Ludwig (Cliff Understudy).....Justin O'Toole
FRL. Kost (Schneider Understudy).....Julie Theoret
Max/Asst. Officer/3rd German Sailor.....Sasha Handelman
Bobby/Taxi Man/ 1st German Officer/ Nazi Guard .....Phillip Viens
Victor/ 2nd German Sailor/ Nazi Guard.....Liam Shannon
Nazi Child.....Brennan Smith
Texas/ Gorilla.....Monica Manning
Rosie/ Two Ladies Girl.....Halley LaPoint
Lulu/ Two Ladies Girl (Sally Understudy).....Natalie Miller
Frenche.....Carrie Quinn
Fritzy.....Katie Dorben
Helga.....Marie Beland



Above: Brennan Smith
Below: Nancy Hartswick and Amber Donato
Bottom: Johnathan Flom and Kerrin Wilmarth





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Fun Page

Sudoku

6		5	9	8	4		3	7
							1	4
9			2					6
					1	5		
		3	4	2	7	1		
		2	8					
8					6			2
7	3							
2	5		3	7	8	6		1

Horoscopes

Libra (Sept 23-Oct 22) Beware large barnyard animals. It's not you they truly love, just what's in your wallet. Examine where your life is going and fix it for the love of all that's good

Scorpio (Oct 23-Nov 21) What you suspect is true. There are new people in town and you should try to stay away from them. Xenophobia is not a four letter word.

Sagittarius (Nov 22-Dec 21) New events will help you to realize what needs to be altered or discarded in your relationships; namely, your current partner. Stay true to your principles when buying dog food. After the revelations are made you will be much happier. Maybe.

Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 19) Your academic life is going to take a turn for the better. Keep in mind that it is inextricably linked to travel plans in the near future.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 18) Your parents may be on the back burner for now but your situation may worsen. Instead of looking for new resources for cash, try going on a diet.

Pisces (Feb 19-Mar 20) Your relationship with authority is one-sided. Open conflict is imminant. Take it easy or you may find yourself in a situation you can't refuse.

Aries (Mar 21-Apr 19) Lucky numbers are zero. Prognosis is bad indeed.

Taurus (Apr 20-May 20) Believe it or not an old flame can still be rekindled, but only if you pour gasoline all over it. A lot of effort is required but it will definitely turn out for the best.

Gemini (May 21-Jun 21) A few nights out have turned into far too many. That itching isn't something that will go away on its own. What you need is a friend with a pair of plyers and the ability to keep secrets.

Cancer (Jun 22-Jul 22) Give in to peer pressure. All of the cool kids are doing it. Just because science, the Church, and Jon Stewart say it's bad for you, doesn't mean it is.

Leo (Jul 23-Aug 22) LOOK OUT BEHIND YOU!!! Take a few deep breaths and realize that things are just as bad as they seem, and it's probably all your fault. Try blaming others for your faults and you'll be much better off.

Virgo (Aug 23-Sept 22) It's the same Sudoku puzzle every week. I am not lying. The editor is a lazy bum and doesn't change it. Tell the people!

Weekend Forecast

STUDENT METEOROLOGIST: Alexander Lataille

An Artic air mass with extreme cold weather made its return to the region today. As high pressure continues to move down from Canada it will help to increase winds and lower temperatures, resulting in drastically low wind chills. The National Weather Service in response has issued a Wind Chill Warning for our region which means low temperatures along with winds 10 to 20mph will drop windchill values below -30 degrees. Try to limit your exposure to these extreme temperatures as your risk of frostbite in these temperatures greatly increases after only 10 minutes in this type of weather. A week storm system will enter our area over the weekend bringing only trace and light snow accumulations. Temperatures over the weekend will rebound from extreme lows, however during the week next week we may see another shot of intense cold air.

Friday Night (Jan 26, 2007)
Partly Cloudy
Low: -6 to -15 F
High: - F Partly cloudy skies during the night. Northwest wind 5 to 10mph.
Saturday (Jan 27, 2007)

Saturday Night (Jan 27, 2007)
Mostly Cloudy
Low: 4 to 6 F High: 15 to 18 F High temperatures rebound slightly with Mostly Cloudy skies during the afternoon. Wind light to 5mph.

Sunday (January 28, 2007)
Mostly cloudy skies with wind 5-10 MPH

Winter word search

Can you find the words related to winter in the word search bellow?

S N O W I N G L R G H K F G F E T B N
L G H H K U I S N Y H I W A R K D H S
U Q P I W O E I R U T Y S N O W M A N
S D M T J H M E T S H H N W S N H V O
H S L E E T J A W O L I J R T B D J W
N B H W K T H K F V J R N O B J D I B
G V J A V A L A N C H E A V I H S L A
S K A S K I I N G O D R I C T M H S L
D O P H I N G B O L G R L E E G H A L
E G G H U K E B O K D R I F T G U L R
T H L K D F G J K E P M E W E S A C X
S K A T I N G Q L E K R T O I N D W A

SNOWING
DRIFT
WHITEWASH
SLUSH

COLD
SNOWMAN
FROSTBITE
AVALANCE

SKIING
SKATING
SNOWBALL
SLEET

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LYNDON REVIEW
LSC's one and only literary magazine.
The best thing aside from the Critic.

Send in your poems, essays, and short stories whether they stink or not.
Attach the document to an email.
Send the email to **joshua.gervais@lyndonstate.edu**.
Put "Lyndon Review" in your subject line.

If you have some artwork you would like to submit, put it in a folder and place it in Chandler Gilman's door box (Vail 466).

The Critic is looking for people to fill the following positions:
Reporters
Photographers
Advertisers
Graphic Designers

The Critic Meets Thursdays from 6:00 p.m.-8:40 p.m. in Lac 409.
Contact Mary Wheeler at mary.wheeler@lyndonstate.edu or critic@lyndonstate.edu for more information.

Moore asks for help from local legislators

By MARY WHEELER
EDITOR

Limited spaces and aging equipment were issues LSC President Carol Moore discussed with Vermont legislators, faculty, administration, and students this past Monday.

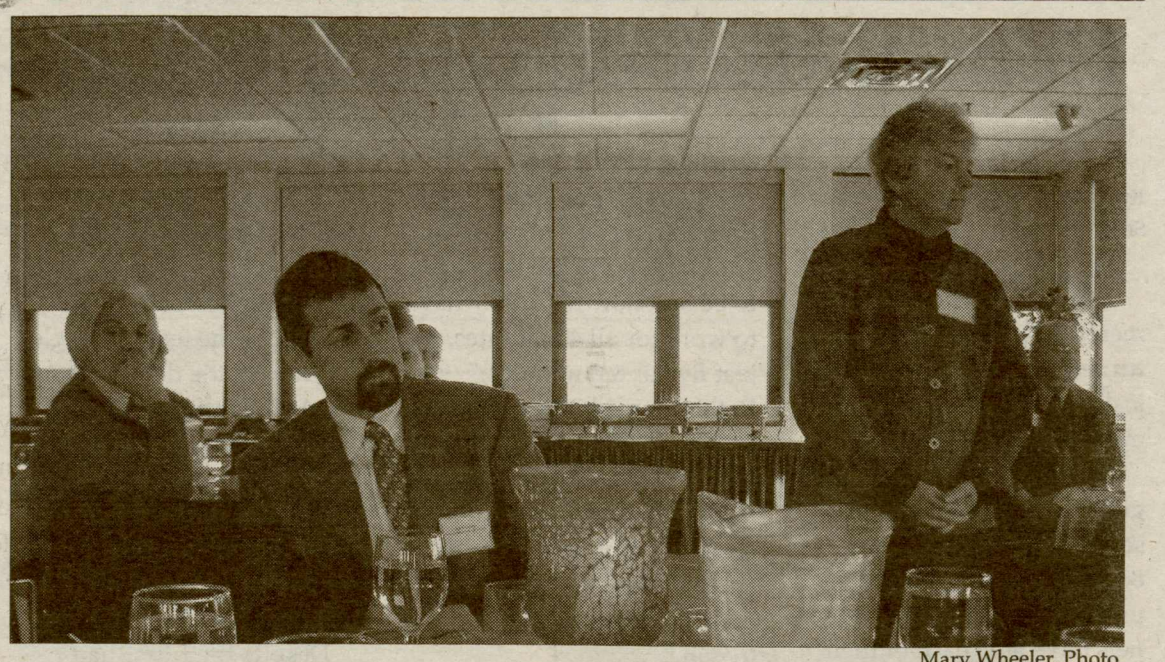
"We have exercise science students who have classes in squash courts, and with certain majors like meteorology, we constantly need to upgrade our equipment," Moore said.

Moore presented information to members of the Vermont legislature (including local Caledonia representatives Don Bostic and George Coppenrath) advocating for more money for the Vermont State College system. One of the requests made by Moore included a percentage increase in line with the University of Vermont (UVM) and Vermont Student Assistant Cooperation (VSAC.)

According to the current funding formula, there has been a substantial increase over the last 15 years in the number of Vermont students enrolled at a VSC school, while the number of Vermont students enrolled at the UVM has decreased. Since 1990, the VSC appropriations per Vermont full-time equivalency have increased by $30, where UVM's appropriations have increased by $3,543.

Moore went on to present various statistics to the group, including the 1,401 students currently enrolled at LSC, which is steadily growing with each year. There are currently over 2,000 employees in the VSC system. 83% of the VSC are Vermont students. 48% are first generation students. The graduation placement rate is 93% and 81% of those recent graduates are living in Vermont.

Some issues that Vermont is facing in the coming years include an 18% decline in high school graduates, aging academics, and the average college debt being approximately $18,000, Moore said.



Mary Wheeler, Photo

Susan Ghallagher, Bob Whittaker, and Carol Moore listen to legislators as they discuss the VSC.

Aramark creates informational website

By SARAH DONAGHY
CRITIC STAFF

Aramark, the company that provides Lyndon State College's dining programs, is now providing a new service. Health conscious students on campus can now go online to access nutritional information on the food that they purchase in Stevens Dining Hall and the Hornet's Nest. This is good news for students with special nutritional needs or for those who are just trying to be more conscientious about what they are eating.

This is not just for those trying to adhere to a diet regime but also for those who are trying to eat more healthfully.

As well as giving serving sizes, information on calories, fat, and fiber, and vitamin and mineral amounts; it gives you an opportunity to discuss dietary concerns with a nutritionist.

If you contact Dining Services through the website they will put you in touch with Health Services or a certified nutritionist.

This website also seems to be the new go-to place for on-campus food needs. You can use the new site to access operating hours, weekly menus, to arrange for meal plans or "Points."

The site can even arrange catering for an event and provides a link for students, or parents, who are interested sending a gift basket for a special occasion.

This is one more step to upgrading the kind of assistance that the Dining Services at LSC provide. An interactive website will make these kinds of information more readily accessible to students and help them make better choices about the foods they eat from the comfort of their dorm rooms.

To access the Aramark website go to: http://www.campusdish.com/en-US/CSNE/Lyndon

Former business professor leaves for personal reasons

By KEITH WHITCOMB
MANAGING EDITOR

Gordon Haym, a former professor of Business Administration at LSC, handed in his resignation over the winter break.

Haym resigned for personal reasons, John Kascenska, assistant academic dean, said.

Haym's resignation was made public in an email sent to the entire campus by LSC President Carol Moore. "I regret to inform you that Gordon Haym has resigned from his position as assistant professor of business administration," the email read.

Haym's abrupt departure left the Business Department the job of covering his course load. Associate Professor of Business Administration, Mark Hilton was assigned two of Haym's courses. Two adjunct professors took over the courses that Hilton left to cover Haym's, while a team of two other adjunct professors were assigned to one of Haym's other courses. The remaining course was covered by hiring a new adjunct professor, Linda Mitchell, professor of Business Administration, said.

None of the meeting times of Haym's old courses had to be changed and the books students ordered for them were kept. The process of filling in for Haym went smoothly, Mitchell said.

The Business Department plans to hire a permanent replacement for Haym. "I expect we'll be able to find somebody qualified," Mitchell said. "You don't know until you advertise."

"No search has been launched at this point," Kascenska said when referring to how long it would be before a replacement is expected to be hired. "It's too early to tell."

The brevity of the email used to announce Haym's resignation struck Debra Bailin, director of student academic development as being odd. Haym was a big part of the INT 2020 courses and his leaving without much explanation was strange.

"He thought of himself as a student helper," Bailin said. "I think that there were students that he helped. I think that there were students he didn't get along with."

"Gordon was awesome, I loved Gordon," Chauna Meyer, a former LSC sophomore and Business Accounting major, said. "Whenever I needed a reference, whenever I needed anything, Gordon would get it."

Meyer had taken a Business Software class with Haym and thought he was a serious person who only had problems with students when they used instant messenger programs on the classroom computers, something they knew not to do.

Hornets back on winning track

By ANDREW KOCH
Sports Editor

The Lyndon State Hornets men's basketball team has turned things around dramatically to start the spring semester.

Despite some early struggles that saw the team lose seven of its first nine games, one of its top scorers and its primary ball handler, the Hornets have won each of their last four games and are now 4-2 since the semester break.

Tanner Pryce and Jesse Holden both left the team early in the season for what Head Coach Randy Rathburn said were personal reasons. In the case of Holden, it turned out that he and his girlfriend are expecting their first child soon.

"I felt that there wasn't enough intensity all around with the team, the players and the coaches," Holden said while shooting around in the gym on Monday. He was quick to add that he didn't have any problems with the coaches and gets along fine with them.

"I'm about to have a child, and I couldn't have a job (while playing basketball). I needed the money," Holden said when asked about what led to his decision to leave the team.

"It took a good part of the first semester for players to realize how intense they have to be and how hard they have to work for all 40 minutes, not just five or ten minutes," Rathburn said in response to Holden's comments. "Every team in college basketball has talent. You can't just put it on cruise control, or play to 50 percent of your talent and ability, and think you're going to win."

Rathburn also discussed why his team struggled in the first semester, including one brutal four game stretch between November 28 and December 3.

"We have a young team. It took the team the whole semester to learn how to work to win a college basketball game. Having four games in six days didn't help that. Once we lost the first two games, the issues just snowballed, because there's no time to regroup. We lost four games in a row, and then we had four days to regroup, and it paid off with a win at Hesser, a team that had defeated us previously."

Before Pryce and Holden left the team, Rathburn said he had long discussions with both of them about what their feelings were and about the decisions they wanted to make. Rathburn said that he left those discussions feeling confident that Pryce and Holden had made the best decisions for themselves. He added that the team struggled at first with the departures.

"At first, they were shocked. But, just like in any typical family, when something like that happens it draws the family closer together. This drew the team closer together."

Despite their first-half struggles, the Hornets hope to ride their recent second-half success all the way to the end of the season and a berth in the United States College Athletic Association (USCAA) Division I National Tournament in March.

Notes: According to Rathburn, Hornets guard Troy Turner is academically ineligible, but that could change within the week.

Former head coach Eric Berry sent in his letter of resignation last week to Athletic Director Chris Ummer.

Berry was the men's head coach for the last six years, compiling a record of 99 wins and 60 losses.

Berry had originally taken a leave of absence this year to spend more time with his family, then return next year. Now it appears he wants to make this leave of absence permanent.

Athletes still recovering from automobile accident

By JAKE MARDIN
Critc Staff

Two LSC freshmen are still recovering from an automobile accident last semester in Danville.

Softball player Felicia Luke and passenger, basketball player Kristin Petell, were traveling east on Route 2 on Dec. 3 when Luke hit a patch of black ice and veered into the opposite lane and collided with an oncoming vehicle before sliding off the road. It took rescue workers a half hour to get Luke and Petell out of the vehicle. Both were transported to Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Hanover, N.H.

Petell suffered from a concussion, a large gash on her head, a black eye, a bruised hip and back, and whiplash. She was released from the hospital the following day. She still has neck pain and attends physical therapy two times a week.

Luke had four broken ribs, a punctured lung, a lacerated liver, a fractured back, a fractured tailbone, and her pelvic bone was broken in five places. Only her lungs have healed and she is using a wheelchair, but hopes to be up and walking next month.

Luke spent a little over a month in the hospital. "My family was really supportive," Luke said. Her mother stayed at the hospital with her every day for the first month.

The LSC staff, her coach and teammates have also supported her. Luke said Donna Keely has helped her get back on her feet and although that it is unlikely that she will get a chance to play softball this season, her coach is letting her stay on the team.

Luke attends physical therapy three days a week, where she does exercises designed to build up her leg strength.

Petell said that she has had support from her teammates and coaches, but it is "really frustrating" to not be able to help her team. At the time of her accident, the women's basketball team roster was already thin due to injury.

Fortunately for Petell, she has been able to practice, and she will be allowed to play once she finishes her work from last semester. She hopes to play this Sunday against the University of Maine-Machias or sometime next week.

In the Beginning, there was Football

By ROBERT RUMRILL
Critic Staff

The other day a person asked me what the date of the Super Bowl was. After I told him how un-American he was, I pulled out my handy day planner to show him the date that I thought would be clearly marked on calendars like all the other American holidays.

Believe it or not Super Bowl Sunday is not an official American holiday. It's crazy, I know, but is it blasphemous? Religions get holidays, and is football not a religion?

Both religion and football have die-hard fans, some more than others, and both pay there respects on Sundays.

Both have extra slots of time during the week for those who are huge fans or if you were busy on Sunday doing something that you probably regret doing anyways, like spending time with the family, exercising, or just simply not drinking.

At church you get to hear the opinions of some pastor who on occasion has some insight that can be applied to life but for the most part has no clue what he is talking about.

Same as football!

When you watch football you have to listen to some dumbass announcer who sometimes sounds like he has something worth saying but for the most part fills the airtime with his own opinions about nothing in particular.

Personally, I cannot tell the difference between the sports channels and the God channels, both of which are amusing in their own right.

Has anyone noticed the similarities between religious figures and sports figures? I honestly think there is a competition between sports players and the Pope for who can wear the most gold. Even after all the lawsuits, the Pope still seems to be winning.

The lawsuits against the church, by the way, remind me of all the lawsuits against professional athletes accusing them of sexual harassment and/or rape, and just like the blind religious followers who dismiss all the lawsuits against the church, the most avid sports fans ignore the lawsuits and continue to root for their favorite athlete/accused rapist.

Like football games, religions are always fighting over which is better, and the weaker of the two loses. Like football, religion is a competition to get the most fans, which leads to more package sport channels, which leads to more money to go to better teams and stadiums. This in turn leads to more pastors with more pimped out jewelry and bigger churches with more pimped out crucifixes! See the similarities?

Upcoming Games

February 3: Lydnon State vs. Southern Maine Community College. Women @ 1 p.m., Men @ 3 p.m.
February 6: Lyndon State Women vs. Mitchell College, 5:30 p.m
February 11: Lyndon State Women vs. St. Joseph's College-Brooklyn, 1 p.m.
February 18: Lyndon State Women vs Green Mountain College, 2 p.m.

All basketball games are held in the Stannard Gymnasium.

Hornet News

Men's junior center Brad Durr was named the USCAA Men's Basketball Player of the Week, while women's junior co-captain Whitney Hoyt earned an Honorable Mention.

Brad Durr was named the Men's Division I Basketball Player last week. Durr is a junior center for the Lyndon State College Hornets. Durr posted two double doubles, leading the Hornets to two wins. In the first game, Durr had 16 points and an outstanding 14 rebounds as the LSC held off the Capitals of NHTI 73-72.

Durr followed this performance up the next night with a 25 point, 11 rebound showing against Morrisville State of New York, leading LSC to an 89-84 overtime victory over the Mustangs.

Hoyt averaged 16 points and 12 rebounds as the Lady Hornets went 2-0 last week. Hoyt put up 21 points and 16 boards against Morrisville State College (NY). Hoyt also scored 11 points and pulled down eight rebounds against Vermont Tech.

THE CRITIC

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Lyndonville, Vermont | Friday, February 2, 2007 | Volume 53, Number 11

Christensen Resigns

SGA Pres and several senators step down from positions

What's Inside

Marie Duquette, who had been a member of the VSC Board of Trustees, died on Friday, January 12, in her home in Stowe, Vermont.

Pg. 2

Jim and Shelia Gallagher will be leaving LSC in June in order to take it easy and do some traveling. The Gallaghers who have played an important role in the LSC community.

Pg. 5

The Foundation Movement a rare, independent hip hop group with a positive message about social issues in America will be playing at LSC on Friday, February 9th.

Pg. 7

In this era of personalized media, YouTube stands out from all the rest. The online video giant receives hundreds of thousands of hits from users looking for everything from music videos to sports highlight clips to home videos and more.

Pg. 7

A dominant second half by the LSC Hornets men's basketball team lead to a 71-54 win over the University of Maine-Machias in Machias Sunday night.

Pg. 8

By MARY WHEELER AND KEITH WHITCOMB
CRITIC STAFF

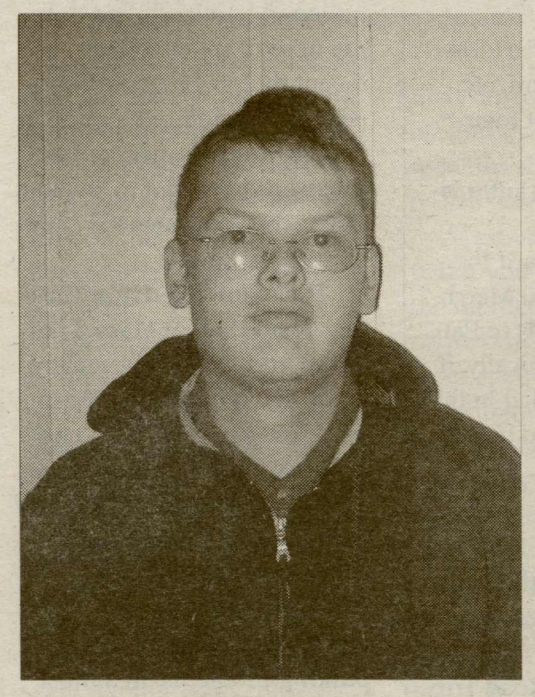
SGA President Lars Christensen and several senators resigned before Thursday's Senate meeting.

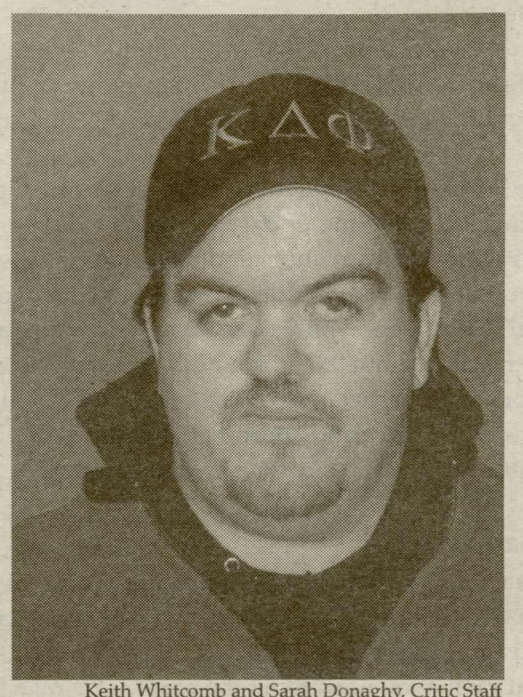
Christensen stated in his resignation letter that due to the criticism he was receiving on his leadership abilities, he felt it necessary for the future of the SGA to step down. While Christensen said that the decision was a difficult one to make, he had been considering resigning for a while.

"It's not that I have anything against the students and it's not that I'm abandoning the students because I do love all of them immensely, but in my conscience I don't want to feel like I'm holding the SGA back in anyway," he said.

"I'm very disappointed with Lars' resignation. I feel that he gave up on himself early last semester as president," Steve Merrill, SGA treasurer said.

Jeremy Lacey, interim vice president, and longest standing senator in the SGA, also resigned, citing personal reasons.





Keith Whitcomb and Sarah Donaghy, Critic Staff

Lars Christensen, SGA president resigned (left) Adam Tracy (right) was elected as vice president and will fill the president position.

"I am absolutely confident that the current members of the executive board of the SGA shall persevere and continue to represent the LSC student body," Lacey said.

Senior senator Adam Tracy, who was elected as the new SGA vice president this week, will now serve as president. Tracy will have to appoint someone with the required credentials to the vice president position and no additional elections will be held.

"I'm very disappointed with Lars' resignation. I feel that he gave up on himself early last semester as president," Steve Merrill, SGA treasurer said. "Certain actions that he took throughout his presidency further confirmed the criticism."

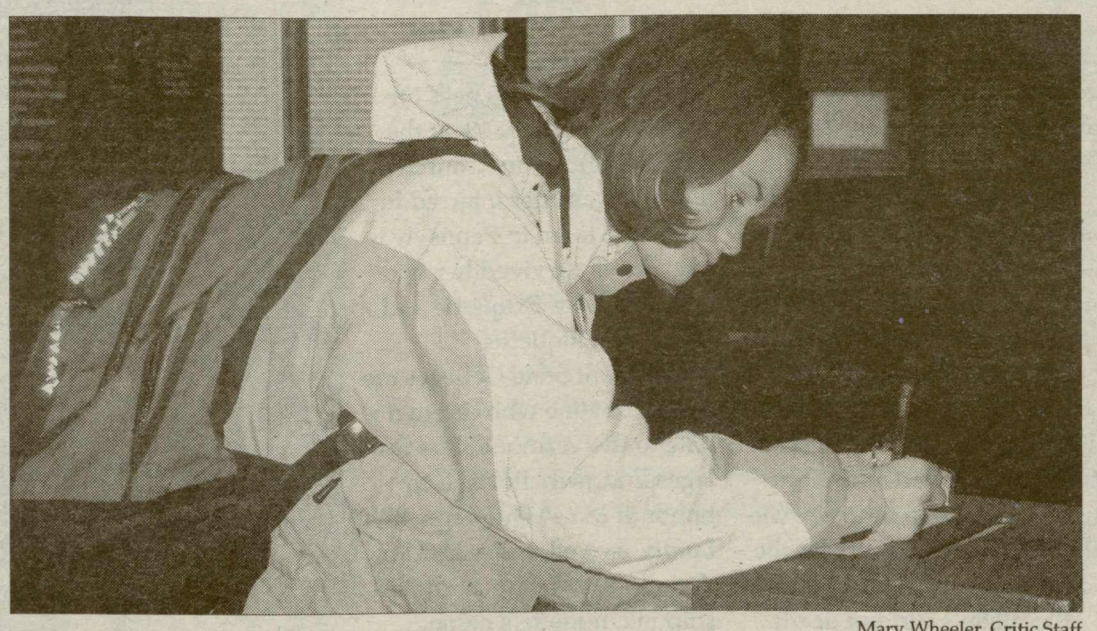
"This looks absolutely terrible. I think something needs to be done immediately," sophomore senator Hayley Lapoint said. "I feel like all my hard work isn't going anywhere."

Due to the number of senators resigning, the Senate discussed ways to get students to join SGA; however the current members are unsure of the amount of interest students may have in the organization. Mike Dana, junior senator, said that students may be reluctant to join due to the SGA's current reputation.

"I have full faith that the Student Government Association will continue to function and even in my absence will continue to work tirelessly for the students at LSC," Christensen's resignation letter read. "This is one of the hardest things I've had to do, but I think it will work toward strengthening the SGA and is for the best."

The vice president election had 13.5 percent of the student body voting, with over 10 percent of the student body voting in the first day Tuesday. Those running for the position were Tracy, junior Melinda Fay, and sophomore Tim Lavigne.

Tracy's inital reasons for running for vice president had to do with his prior experience with the SGA. "The most important reason why I ran for SGA Vice President is, because I felt that with experience as a former SGA Vice President would help the current SGA Executive board. The only changes I could hope to try to do is get the student voices heard and run a strong and productive meetings in House and Senate."



Mary Wheeler, Critic Staff

Rebecca Paskell, an LSC freshman votes on Tuesday in the SGA elections.

Upcoming Events

The Portner Prize

Announcing: Exciting news for students who participate in the Fine and Performing Arts at Lyndon State College. Through the generosity of Professors Richard and Terry Portner, an endowment has been created that will offer recognition of consistent interest and achievement in the Fine and Performing Arts at LSC. This may include course work, community service, internships, and extra-curricular participation in the disciplines of Music, Art, and/or Theater.

The Portner Prize is offered to Juniors and Seniors and will include a cash award that can be used as the student chooses. To be considered for the prize, students will

* submit a cover letter summarizing their involvement in the Arts
* prepare a brief explanation of why the Fine & Performing Arts are important to self, community, curriculum, etc.
* include a resume, portfolio or DVD, CD, etc., of their work.

The Portner Prize Committee will adjudicate the submissions and will recommend the strongest candidate.

This is a new endowment and our hope is to award the first prize at the Rising Student awards ceremony on March 22, 2007. Please send your cover letters and materials to Pat Webster at the Samuel Read Hall Library or electronically, if appropriate, to patricia.webster@lsc.vsc.edu. If mailed in this way, the cover letter and additional materials should be sent as an attachment. The deadline is March 1, 2007.

Road Trip

The world needs people who are lit up by what they do: people who can contribute in unique ways that accentuate their distinct talents and passions.

That's why you need to hit the road…. Go on a Road Trip and ask other people how they found their path in life. On the road, you'll meet and interview inspirational leaders from all walks of life and find out that they all identified a passion and built a life around it --- because they chose to ride on open roads.

So, are you willing to choose a life path that reflects what is uniquely you?

Wanna learn more about that Road Trip adventure?

Get more info @ the LSC's Career Center (Vail 318) – 626-6221, or log on www.roadtripnation.com

Hurry up, deadline to apply is March 1st, 2007!

Hacking and students address campus parking

By JORDAN ROYER
Critic Staff

It was cold, snowy and way too early. It was just before 8am when I pulled into the Vail parking lot in front of Stannard Gymnasium.

The pavement had a light covering of snow but when I pulled in I noticed I was taking up two spots, which meant the car I had parked next to was doing the same. I decided to move my car because I didn't want to be "that guy" who continues the chain of poor parking.

The following day, a Tuesday, I had class at 11am. I got to school a little early, luckily, because it took me nearly 10 minutes to find an open parking space that was legal. I was already in deep thought about parking difficulties around campus so I took a look around to see how many cars were out of place and creating parking problems. In almost every row there was a car that was taking up two spots, a clear certainty of where the parking problem stemmed. I decided that I needed to speak with someone of this problem and who else better than George Hacking, the director of public safety at Lyndon State College.

Hacking was quick to admit there are parking problems on campus. "There are multiple issues, he said. Parking is tight and there are limited parking spaces." He was quick to explain though that there are enough spaces.

The problem, he feels, stems from people not respecting others. People are creating hazards and inconveniences for others because they don't allot themselves enough time to find a legal parking space and make it to class on time. Hacking added, "people need to be aware of where they park. It grows from one car [parking wrongly]."

Josh Wells, a senior at Lyndon put it a little less polite than Hacking. "People park like friggin' idiots, he said."

Like I had previously noticed, Hacking admitted the difficult times are Tuesday's and Thursday's. On those days the school hosts special events which lead to an influx of cars on campus. The best suggestion that Hacking could make was for students to give themselves adequate time to park before their class. I have heard from a number of students that the school needs to create more parking on campus so I asked Hacking what he thought of the idea. "It makes no sense to make more parking when we have enough, he said. We just have to get the most of what we have."

LSC junior Dylan Barton had an idea I liked which involved converting the soccer field into a parking lot and moving the soccer field to the area used by the rugby team.

Hacking also pointed out the parking throughout the rest of campus, stating that all of the other lots have sufficient parking available. I asked Lyndon State sophomore Corin Hall if she agreed with Hacking's statement and she did, but explained, "they need to plow the dorm lots more often."

Within my discussion with Hacking on dorm packing he mentioned a recent change in the Wheelock and Rita Bole Center parking lots. Due to state regulations, the college was required to add visitor parking spaces. "If you are not a visitor you cannot park there," added Hacking, who warned Campus Security will be enforcing parking violations on those spots because of state law.

Hacking is encouraging all students with vehicles to get parking permits. The permits are free, so, "come in and get your sticker." If you don't get a sticker, expect to be ticketed in the near future.

VSC mourns death of trustee Duquette

By SARAH DONAGHY
Critic Staff

Marie Duquette, who had been a member of the VSC Board of Trustees, died on Friday, January 12, in her home in Stowe, Vermont. Cardiac tamponade, an external compression of the heart by blood, fluid, or swelling, caused in her unexpected death.

Duquette was an active member in her state and community. She was a member of the Stowe Planning Commission, Local Option Tax Advisory Council, Vermont Commission for Women, and the Vermont Republican Party, as well as having served on the VSC Board of Trustees for the past two years.

Her position was coming up for reappointment at the end of February. At that time Karen Nevin, the executive assistant to the Chancellor, expected that she would be serving for another term of six years.

"[Duquette] was a wonderful woman," Nevin said. "She cared deeply about her causes and one of her causes was the Vermont State Colleges."

Due to her education in finances from Columbia College, she became very involved in the financial security of the Vermont State College system. During her time on the VSC Board of Trustees she served as the Vice-Chair of the Finance & Faculties Committee and at one time was the director of investments for the Vermont State Pension Fund.

Duquette's sudden death has left an unexpected seat open on the VSC Board of Trustees that the Governor is going to have to fill soon although he is still observing proper respect. According to Karen Nevin, at the latest board meeting which was held on January 29, a moment of silence was observed in honor of Duquette.

The funeral was held on Thursday, January 18, at the Stowe Community Church and she was later interred in her home town in Pennsylvania. She is survived her two children, John Duquette and Elizabeth Duquette.

Vermont State Colleges are asking anyone who can to donate to the Vermont State Colleges Endowment Fund in honor of Marie Duquette. The family, as well, has asked for donations to set up a scholarship in Duquette's name. Those who would like to contribute have been asked to contact Vermont State Colleges, PO Box 359, Waterbury, Vt 05676-0359.

Marie Duquette, an active member of the Board of Trustees passed away in January.

Moments Like This: A Lesson Learned

By TRISH PENNYPACKER
Critic Correspondent

I'll take care of my clothes, Mom," my son eagerly offered as I placed his clean but ratty socks onto his pile of laundry. Pleased at his offer to help, I smiled.

"Thanks, kiddo," I said, as he grabbed his clothes and lumbered up the stairs.

I should have realized then that something was brewing. It was a warm spring day and all morning long my boys had been running through the house. When I caught my youngest son, Codey carrying a bucket of dirt up the stairs, his explanation seemed reasonable.

"Bobby planted some seeds," he told me. "He wants me to put them on his windowsill." He was fidgeting, but he always fidgets.

"Ok," I reasoned. "Just make sure you don't make a mess."

"I won't," he hollered as he ran into Bobby's room. As quickly as he disappeared he was back, only to race past me again, and out the front door. Whatever he was up to, it was urgent.

I chuckled to myself as I thought about my sons' experiments. Some were brilliant; others, although disasters, still quenched the "what-if's" that they sought to answer. Considering the disasters, I figured a few seeds were harmless.

Looking out the window, I saw my three towheads huddled together beneath a maple tree. Bobby, as the oldest, was the apparent ringleader. The other boys were listening intently. Although the window was open, I could not hear their voices. I thought they were getting ready to play baseball.

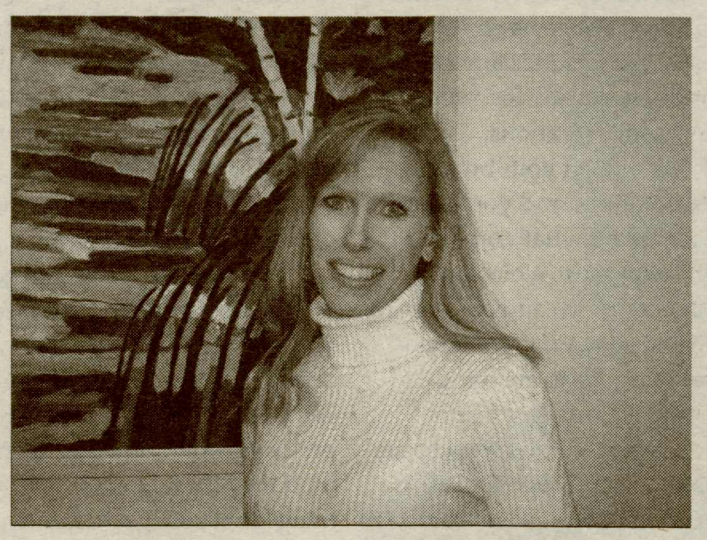
Turning from the window, I noticed that a pair of socks had fallen out of Bobby's arms as he'd hopped up the stairs. Picking them up, I decided that I would take care of them and check out the boys' seed experiment.

Opening the door to Bobby's room, the sour smell of dirty laundry, the pungent aroma of fresh earth, and a musty, unfamiliar odor greeted me. Pushing my way through the crumpled clothes that were strewn across the floor, draped over furniture, and peeking from behind the door, and out from underneath his bed, I wondered how he was able to find a thing in this mess.

I put the socks in his empty bureau drawer and was wading back through the chaos when I heard a distinct chirp. It was probably just a bird flying past the house. I turned to leave the room when I heard it again. Cheep! Cheep, Cheep! Cheeeeep!

Curiously, I began searching. I looked in the desk and the remaining bureau drawers. No bird. The Nike shoe box beneath the bed only contained baseball cards. Behind the door were more dirty socks. No bird.

Looking in the last possible place, the place where the boys hoped I wouldn't look, I folded back the fuzzy blue comforter on the bed, only to find that the lumps and bumps that I had mistaken for blankets were nothing of the sort.



In the middle of the freshly washed, NFL sheet was a hungry, fuzzy, ugly baby bird. Beside the hungry creature was a nest with four sleepy, ugly fuzz balls tucked inside. Next to the nest was the bucket of dirt that I had seen Codey carrying earlier. Looking into the bucket, I saw worms - pink, fleshy squiggling worms. Worms were also crawling in the nest and across the bed sheet. The entire bed was a collage of worms, nearly naked birds, dirt and bird poop. I didn't know whether to be angry or laugh.

Calling the boys inside, I demanded to know what they were thinking. Three pairs of blue eyes stared at me nervously. No one spoke. I turned to Bobby. "Why are the birds on your bed?" I asked him.

"They had fallen out of their nest and were hopping around in the barn. I didn't want the dog to eat them," he said pleadingly.

"Did you stop to think that if you had tied the dog, the mother bird might have helped them?" I asked. All three shook their heads no.

Knowing that we couldn't keep the tiny birds alive ourselves, we placed the nest back in the rafters of the open barn. A few hours later the boys ran to me with excitement. "We saw the mother go to the nest. She had a worm in her mouth." High-fiving each other, they marched back outside, their chests puffed with heroism.

As I loaded the dirty, poop-streaked sheet into the washing machine, I had to laugh. Beneath their grass-stained knees and muddy faces, my boys are softies. They were beginning to understand that no matter how tiny, or ugly, there is value in life. Now if they could only learn to clean their rooms…

Alluded Essence

By Chris Morash

Shimmering skies shine
down so bright
Intensity that is given by
the sun
Brings green upon the
riches of earth
Deep thoughts of beauty
that swell in my sight
Energy flowing through my
body to make me run
Onto the beaches where
mother nature gave birth

The chasing sounds of intense waves intrudes my
ears
Throwing out a rainbow
dusty mist
Tasting the sweet salty
breezy wind
That whips my hair to make
a sound that I hear
Woosh, a seagull of the
ocean flies above my fist
Only once did I try to grasp
the uncertain

Looking upon the ground a
silky dirt flows around my
feet
A soothing tickle feels that
of tender lust
Below my feet lies intriguing forms of life for me to
see
As to follow turtles that are
about to slip into the sea
On again the path was only
to make me flee
In the footsteps that were
left before
I walked through the
shades of all uncertainty.

Letter Policy:

The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must be signed and include the author's phone number and address. The Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:

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UVM: Students debate sex climate

By SARAH POSILLICO
VERMONT CYNIC

BURLINGTON – Jeremiah McHugh is a well-adjusted UVM junior. He, like most college students, has a strong opinion on sex.

"Sex is one of the best inventions ever," he said when asked to elaborate on his views about sex. "But I've learned that it all comes down to how you feel about the other person. I mean, a vagina is a vagina! It all comes down to who it's attached to."

While crude, this statement speaks volumes concerning the sexual climate amongst UVM students. The common stereotype that prevails among adults and labels college students as sex-crazed adolescents; coeds who prefer onenight stands to real relationships, may no longer hold true.

"I sort of had an expectation that more people would be having sex more often," Kevin Anderson, an environmental science major said. "I thought it would be more like [everybody having sex]."

However, many students do view college as an environment that is noticeably more conducive to sex than previous living situations.

"You're on your own for the first time, and you're just discovering what you want to do," Erin Cain, a biology major at UVM, agreed. "There are just so many young people doing the same thing."

Because students find themselves in their own space without the threat of parents watching their every step, "freshman year is a pivotal year in sexual development," UVM junior Alea Tuttle said. "It's definitely a mature step towards having sex."

Gretchen Gross, professor of human relationships and sexuality, has noticed a change in students' views of sex and of themselves.

"In my experience, UVM students' level of thoughtfulness and insightfulness when they are given the opportunity to pause and ask themselves, 'what do I want? What do I need? What am I comfortable with?' It's right there there's a lot of thought behind it," Gross said.

Gross has noticed that her students recognize and know about STDs and using contraception, but they don't know as much about handling the emotional and mental aspects of relationships and sex.

"I think people see college as the last-ditch effort for freedom in the world; and that once you graduate, you will get 'adultified' in a way that prevents anything other than working. There are a lot of things that college students, in general, perceive they have to get done before they leave college," she said.

For Gross, the best way to help students confront choices surrounding sexuality is to offer relationship classes. Unlike the high school health classes that promote abstinence and only help students avoid the consequences of sex, relationship classes can help students know what's right for them, she said.

Without exception, all of the students interviewed reported that sex was better in a relationship, and many voiced opinions similar to Tuttle.

"Sex is much more enjoyable if you're in love with the person you're having sex with," she said.

Even though no-strings-attached sex and experimentation are sometimes considered integral parts of the college experience, for some students the differences between committed and non-committed sex mean everything.

"There's having sex and making love - both have their benefits and detractions, but they're completely different things. There's a physical part and a spiritual part," UVM freshman Keith Brunner said.

Casey Palmer, a UVM freshman, differentiates between sex in a hook-up and sex in a relationship based on the goals of the involved parties.

"If you're in a relationship and there's love between the two of you, you're looking more to please the other person, which in the end makes sure that both people are pleased. That's a more satisfying sexual relationship; it's less selfish.

"But when you hookup, you're looking out for your own pleasure, and it's this big selfish act based on lust. It's not half as fulfilling as sex with love."

But while students may recognize the differences between these kinds of sex, many believe a sexual double standard between men and women persists, despite the sexual revolutions of the '60s and '70s, and the implementation of women's and gender studies classes.

"I still don't think women have sexual equality," Tuttle said. "In general, men expect to be the ones on the prowl and making all the moves, so men are very intimidated when they see women doing the same thing.

"Sometimes [women] are sluts. Sometimes they're girls who are looking for attention or seek approval from a man. But sometimes it's a woman who just knows what she wants and is not afraid to go after it," she said.

"I don't think people realize that girls like [sex] too," Anderson said.

CSC: Campus pub vs. dry dorms

By DAWSON RASPUZZI
CASTLETON SPARTANS

CASTLETON -- Whether or not alcohol belongs on college campuses is a debatable issue that was raised by Castleton students at each end of the spectrum last semester. Now, these same students are attempting to implement changes that could affect the entire campus.

Michelle Spier, along with a few other students, has played a large role in having the school host events where alcohol is served. Last semester two such events were held in the Alumni Room of Huden Dining Hall. These events had live music and tables set up for students and faculty to interact, have a drink, and relax.

Spier believes that having events like these on campus are important because they get students who are otherwise uninvolved in school functions together and participating.

But Brad Lussier, a non-traditional freshman, believes that instead of promoting alcohol use on campus the college should be discouraging it.

Lussier is trying to persuade Castleton's administration that what they should be doing instead of inviting students to drink in Huden is designating a dry dormitory that is alcohol and drug free. Lussier, knows firsthand about the dangers of drugs and alcohol having fought addiction for 16 years of his life.

Now clean, Lussier wants to help others from falling into the same lifestyle that he once found himself absorbed in.

A Push for Alcohol

Spier first got the idea of hosting events on campus that serve alcohol during Phil Lamy's Community in American Society class last semester when the class was asked to come up with ideas for what they wanted to see change on campus.

"My group decided that we'd like to see school events that served alcohol, with the idea that these events may possibly cater to a different group of students than the ones that attend regular school events," Spier said.

The Alumni Room, which holds approximately 100 people and already had a liquor license, was a perfect location for these events, Spier said. The first event, which was an "open mic night," filled the room to capacity.

Later that semester, another event featuring Twiddle and a jazz performance drew about 50 students, according to Spier.

Both President Dave Wolk and Dean of Students Gregory Stone support the idea of holding events on campus that advocate responsible drinking among students who are of age.

"It's not the college's responsibility or business to run a pub, and we probably don't want to put energy into it, but if students want to then I don't want to stop that," Stone said.

Stone and Wolk each attended one of the "pub nights" last semester and said that overall they thought they went well.

Lussier, who volunteers at the Rutland Prevention Coalition, lived in Ellis Hall last semester where he figured that alcohol wouldn't be a common sight considering the percentage of students in Ellis were freshmen under the age of 21.

He was mistaken.

Lussier recalled seeing no regulations to students bringing alcohol and other drugs into the building while he lived there.

Lussier's proposal for a dry dormitory, or at very least a dry floor, is something that other Vermont state schools have experimented with. Johnson State has a dry dorm, which from what Stone has heard, has worked relatively well.

Lyndon State has "substance free lifestyle" housing said the school's Director of Student Life, Jonathan Davis, but there is not a high enough demand to make an entire dry building.

Old-fashioned testing makes a comeback

By SHOU WATANABE
CASTLETON SPARTANS

Castleton State College has a unique way of testing students before they are allowed to graduate - and it flies in the face of the computer age.

The Writing Standard test requires students to use the old fashioned pen and blue test book to complete - and Castleton is the only college in Vermont requiring it.

"I think it's dumb," senior Anthony Scott said before break, after just completing the test.

He believes the testing should be done on a computer and he doesn't understand why it needs to be hand written out.

"It's just more work for the students and it's unnecessary," he said.

But faculty members and administrators said there is a reason for the old-style testing.

English Professor Drennan Spitzer said she supports the method.

"The system isn't perfect, but it's the only way we can make sure that students are not cheating," she said.

Associate Academic Dean Renny Harrigan agrees.

"You are expected to do the whole thing yourself. That means without using spell check or grammar check," she said, with a slight smile.

Gallaghers retire to spend time with grandchildren

By KEITH WHITCOMB
Managing Editor

Two people who have worked behind the scenes to shape the face of LSC in the decades they have been here are retiring in June.

Jim and Shelia Gallagher will be leaving LSC in order to take it easy and do some traveling. "We're going to spend more time with our grandchildren, hopefully, and do some traveling," Shelia Gallagher, Copy Center supervisor/Technical and Academic Secretary, said.

"I suppose we'll never really retire from work. We've known it all our lives," Shelia Gallagher said.

Shelia Gallagher has been working at LSC since 1982. She used to work in the Harvey Academic Center but was moved to Vail and put in charge of reorganizing the copy room. Along with being copy center supervisor, Shelia Gallagher is also the Technical and Academic Secretary for the English, Social Sciences, Foreign Languages, and Television Studies.

The copy room today is largely the result of Shelia Gallagher's organization, although both the Gallaghers would like to emphasize "we" in all of their accomplishments.

The Gallaghers would like to travel to Ireland at some point in the future, perhaps in time for their 40th wedding anniversary, Shelia Gallagher said.

Jim Gallagher, director of Physical Plant Maintenance, helped enact a few of the more visible changes to the LSC campus. When Jim started in 1983, the Physical Plant did not have quality vehicles or equipment. The trucks being used at the time were literally falling apart. By working with other administrators to get funding, Jim Gallagher got new trucks and vans along with a lift and a welder, Patricia Cross, administrative assistant to the director of Physical Plant said.

"It's been a great place to work. It's just time to leave," Shelia Gallagher said.

Jim Gallagher also oversaw the construction of the S.H.A.P.E building (better known as the old Rita Bole Gym), the Library and Academic Center, and the Rita L. Bole Complex.

Jim Gallagher came to the job well-qualified, having been the general manager of a company he and Bob West started called Northern Equipment.

Before working at Northern Equipment, Jim Gallagher taught Forestry and Agriculture at Lamoille Union High School in Hyde Park, Vt.

"I've been able to hire some good people. That made a lot of difference over the years," Jim Gallagher said. "There are a lot of good people here. If you're not dedicated, you just don't stay."

"I've enjoyed working with him and I'm certainly going to miss him," Cross said.

Cross had known of Jim Gallagher's impending retirement but it still affected her emotionally when it was officially announced. "When he told me he sent the notice into Wayne [Hamilton], I cried."

"I hope the next replacement will hold up the high standards of the Maintenance Department," Cross said. "He's made things happen."

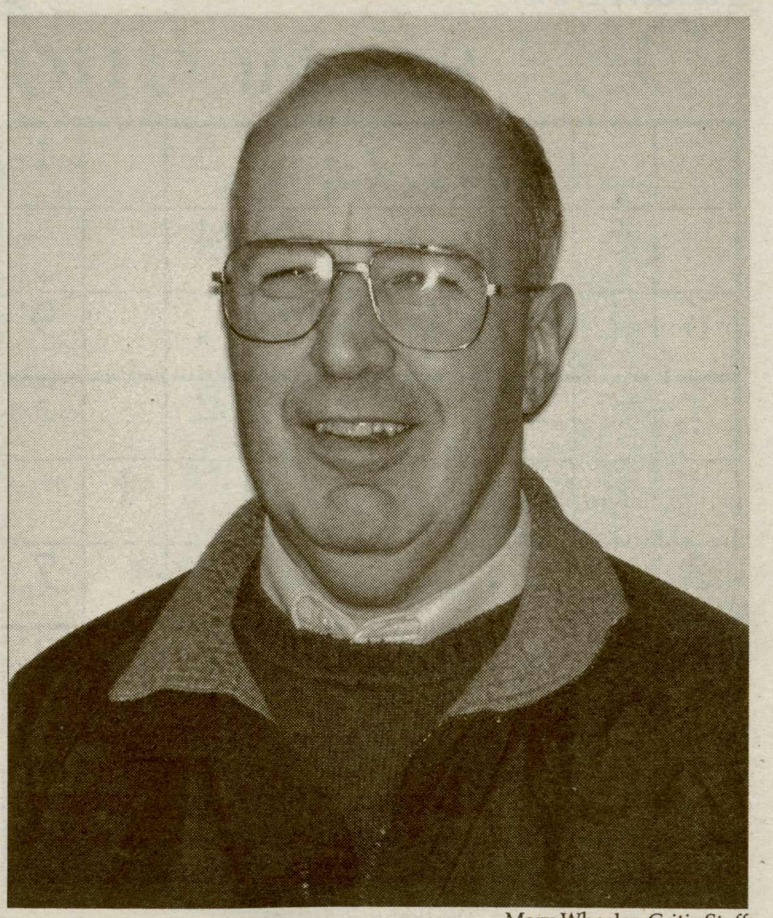
Maintenance technician Dan Martin also had high praise for Jim. "He's been a good assistant to us," Dan Martin said.

"A man of all means, he keeps this place a well oiled machine," Bill Martin, maintenance technician and not related to Dan Martin, said.

"He's been like a grandfather to me," Dan Martin said.

"We're the sons he never wanted," added Bill Martin. He also said "Jim is always willing to help out a student."

"It's been a great place to work. It's just time to leave," Shelia Gallagher said.



Mary Wheeler, Critic Staff

Jim Gallagher and wife Shelia will be retiring in June after years of service to the LSC community.

McCaffrey resigns after ten years at LSC

By KEITH WHITCOMB
Managing Editor

Michelle McCaffrey, assistant dean for admissions, will be leaving LSC Feb. 16 for a position as marketing manager at Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital.

McCaffrey has been working at LSC for ten years. Her reasons for leaving are her children. She would like to spend more time with them on the weekends and her current job makes that difficult, McCaffrey said.

"This is a job that takes a lot of time to do well," McCaffrey said. The job would also require her to travel and work weekends, time she wants to spend with her children.

"When I first started as a counselor it was a more laid-back environment," McCaffrey said.

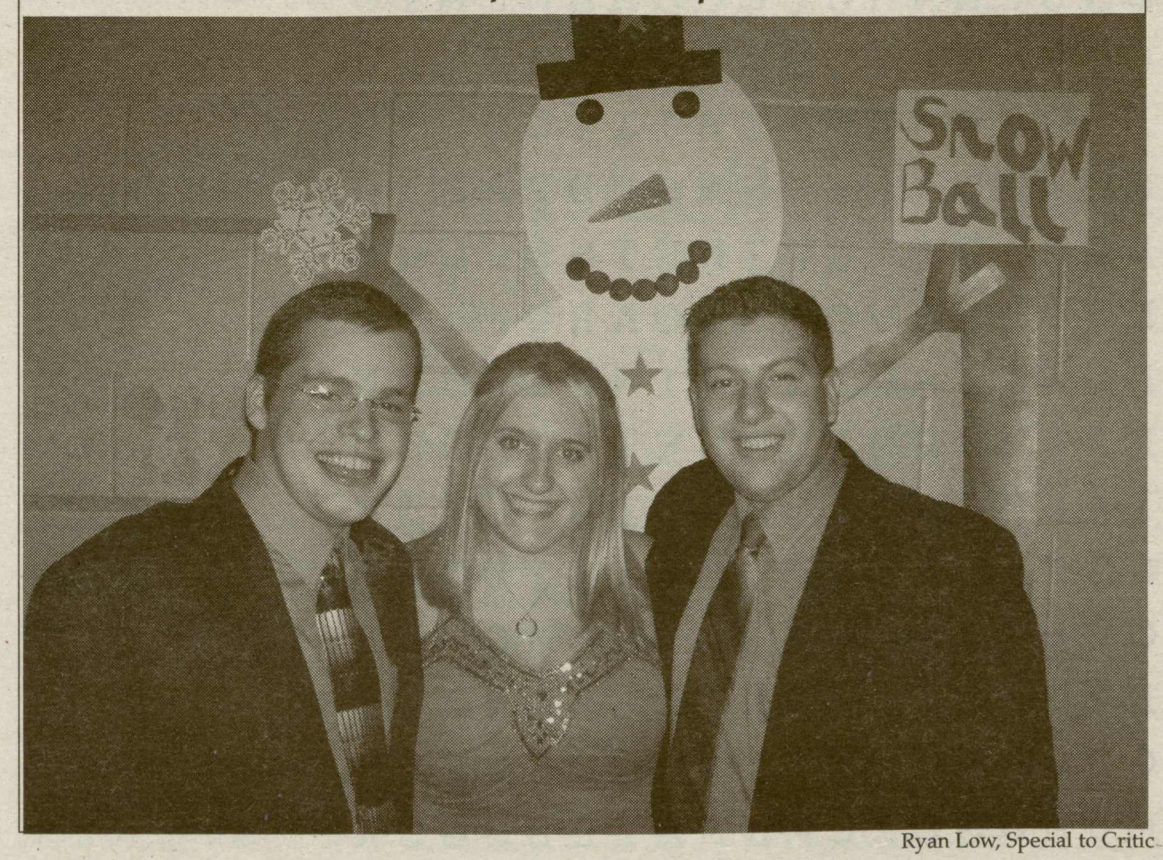
As assistant dean of admissions, McCaffrey's job is to market LSC to prospective students. The competition for students among New England colleges has risen dramatically in the past ten years, McCaffrey said.

"Our competitors are some Vermont schools and others in New England," McCaffrey said. Students coming in from out of state, a demographic LSC has been targeting in recent years, have other colleges to look at in Vermont besides LSC. The marketing side of LSC has grown since McCaffrey started working with it.

McCaffrey graduated from LSC and began working in Admissions right afterward. McCaffrey remembers Lyndon going through the process of linking its databases with the VSC system and has seen LSC form its brand-name look.

"It's great working with the student," McCaffrey said. "I wish the best for everyone and I'll still stay involved."

Campus Snapshot



Ryan Low, Special to Critic

Joe Reedy, Cathy Bagarella, and Ryan Low enjoy a night of dancing at the AMS Winter Ball on Jan. 27.

The Critic is looking for people to fill the following positions:
Reporters
Photographers
Advertisers
Graphic Designers

Contact Mary Wheeler at mary.wheeler@lyndonstate.edu for more information

Sudoku

		8		7		5		1
	5	7		1		4		
6	1				2			9
1		5			6	2		3
	8						1	
3		2	4			8		7
5			9				7	2
		9		6		1	5	
7		4		2		3		

Weekend Forecast
STUDENT METEOROLOGIST: Scott Jaeger

An area of low pressure located over the Midwest region will continue to move north and east. The cold front, associated with the low pressure system, will move over the area tonight. Prior to the passage of the cold front, today's high temperatures will be warmer than it has been, reaching into the upper 20s to lower 30s. This afternoon, the low pressure will move closer to the Northeast Kingdom, providing us with cloudy skies and scattered snow showers. Snow accumulations will be light with less than an inch and slightly higher amounts in the higher elevations. On Saturday, we'll see cloudy skies and a few flurries then clearing for the rest of the weekend with a mix of sun and clouds. This weekend, bundle up as cold temperatures return to our area with low's reaching into the teens below zero.

Tonight
Low: 12 to 19
Mostly cloudy with scattered snow showers. Westerly winds 5-10 mph with gusts ranging as high as 15-20 mph. Total snowfall accumulations of less than an inch with slightly higher amounts in the higher elevations.

Saturday
Low: -5 to 2
High: 17 to 24
Cloudy with scattered flurries during the morning hours then a mix of sun and clouds by afternoon. Westerly winds 5-10 mph. Little or no snow accumulation expected.

Sunday
Low: -11 to -18
High: 11 o 18
A mix of sun and clouds with cold temperatures at night. Calm winds.

SUBMIT!!!
To the
LYNDON REVIEW
LSC's one and only literary magazine.
The best thing aside from the Critic.

Send in your poems, essays, and short stories whether they stink or not.
Attach the document to an email.
Send the email to **joshua.gervais@lyndonstate.edu**.
Put "Lyndon Review" in your subject line.

If you have some artwork you would like to submit, put it in a folder and place it in Chandler

Horoscopes

Libra (Sept 23-Oct 22) If you have something on your mind and in your heart that you can't say aloud, write a letter. No, not an email -- an actual, handwritten letter. You don't have to send it, but it could deliver more relief than you expected.

Scorpio (Oct 23-Nov 21) Digging in your heels isn't getting you anything but a serious case of cramps in your feet. Don't you think it's time for some changes? Revamp your game plan and see if the game of life doesn't immediately improve.

Sagittarius (Nov 22-Dec 21) It's time to transform negativity into something with a higher and more creative purpose when it comes to your home life. Take a step back. Getting some breathing room will help if things have been too intense lately.

Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 19) Big emotions arrive in waves. The trick is to ride them like an expert surfer: You know there'll be a high, a low and a period in which you can coast. Once you get that down, you're pretty much set for life.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 18) There are so many feelings crowding your heart, and you want to express every single one of them. Try writing them or talking them out. You don't need to act on all of them, and life will be much smoother.

Pisces (Feb 19-Mar 20) Messes: You hate them. But it's time to face facts. Usually, life itself is plain messy; many times, that's where the beauty comes from. So sit back and try to let this chaos just exist without trying to tidy it up.

Aries (Mar 21-Apr 19) A few old resentments are lingering in your life. It's time to deal with them before they make a point of dealing with you. Keep in mind that these feelings might go deeper than you initially realized, but keep at it.

Taurus (Apr 20-May 20) Giving up on changing the past can be tough, but once you get there, you'll feel so much freer, happier and more energetic. So try to let go of people, places and things that just don't work for you in the here and now.

Gemini (May 21-Jun 21) Family traditions don't just mean holiday customs. They can also include old habits and ways of interacting. Now's the time to examine whether these actually work for you or if you keep them around because of sentiment.

Cancer (Jun 22-Jul 22) Like the song goes, you can't always get what you want. But if you really examine your reasons for wanting it, you'll end up pretty grateful that you didn't get it in the first place. Now your intentions are clear.

Leo (Jul 23-Aug 22) If it feels right, you should do it. Sometimes the emotional logic overwhelms and outweighs the rationality. After all, feelings are evidence, too, and they shouldn't be ignored. Don't forsake your heart for your brain.

Virgo (Aug 23-Sept 22) A momentary feeling may run deeper than you suspected. It's important not to overreact (or be reactive at all). Instead, take a moment and a few deep breaths. After you get your bearings, you can take correct action.

Super Bowl XLI Word Search

Can you find the words related to Super Bowl XLI in the word search below?

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A E N E R I B R C M R R L R E E S A T
C A A I R G H P E H U G U B W T D L C
S U C L I U R C P M I I Y I I P M I O
S A S W C I E E R A I C B P G A R R C
O N U C N A H U D C O C A M M I M T O
C S P C G A C D S M Y A N G A D I L H
A B E A R S A N M D S I I I O S N I R
G C R M T I L E D W N P P D P A E I A
D R B L U A R G D I N E T S B C C G A
N W O D H C U O T M M O A R U W I M O
N C W S I E N R M M A I N H O S S R N
M S X A S S M A T B N N W I I U P U M
I A L M C M A N O A A C E N U U I N M
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M U M O G C Y C M N N A L D B S G S W
M L S O D W O A I X E G S C B I N A A
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SUPER BOWL XLI
COLTS
BEARS
INDIANAPOLIS
CHICAGO
MIAMI
PRINCE
URLACHER
ADDAI
CBS
MANNING
GROSSMAN
SMITH
DUNGY
TOUCHDOWN
COMMERCIALS

Freespeaking hip hop group visits LSC

By ROBERT RUMRILL
CRITIC STAFF

The Foundation Movement, a rare, independent hip hop group with a positive message about social issues in America, will be playing at LSC on Friday, February 9th.

The group, consisting of rappers Optimus and Eroc, come out of Boston, Massachusetts. Following the path of other artists such as Public Enemy and Rage Against the Machine, the Foundation makes it a point to emphasize social unrest and injustice as the central theme in their music.

"Your following lies like those who praise a mythical lord, closed eyes as Bush leads you through his biblical wars," exclaims the Foundation in their song *"Our Love Song"*. "They got wealth and yet remain morally poor. Despite the fog I remain clean and spiritually pure."

When hip hop music first emerged onto the music scene in the late 70's and early 80's, the genre expressed social inequality and civil unrest through out different artists' lyrics.

"Don't push me, 'cause I'm close to the edge, I'm trying not to lose my head," from Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five's 1982 song *"The Message"*. "It's like a jungle sometimes, it makes me wonder how I keep from going under."

Nowadays, it seems like hip hop that has a socially conscious message is practically nonexistent in the mainstream market.

That does not mean that the artists are not out there.

Most hip hop that supports revolutionary thought has to fly below the radar of mainstream record labels and radio.

Artists like The Foundation Movement, New York's Immortal Technique, and California's The Coup still speak the message of truth to an underground following they have created without the support of commercial television or radio.

"We demanding our freedom," says The Foundation in *"The Plantation"*, "no point in asken, asken implies that these devils have compassion."

Photo courtesy of The Foundation Movement

Optimus and Eroc from the Foundation Movement will be playing in the ATT Theater Friday February 9th. Admission is free with a student I.D.

Community colleges vs. four-year schools

CCV grad complains he can't get a good job; LSC dean cites 'different needs and different mission'

By MARY WHEELER
EDITOR

Nikolai Sears, a 23-year-old graduate from the Community College of Vermont in Burlington, was like millions of other students struggling to adapt to life without 8:00 a.m classes. Sears, who is currently working at a restaurant, admitted that finding high-quality employment in Burlington, in the pool of University of Vermont and Saint Michael graduates, was a challenge.

"There is just so much competition these days that you really need to stand out," he said. "Companies generally don't think you can do the job as well as someone who went to a traditional four year university."

While young people like Sears may find employment opportunities limited, CCV states that 93 percent of their graduates find employment within 6-12 months.

Over the past ten years, community colleges (which were often seen for working class adults) have seen a substantial increase in the number of recent high school graduates attending. While there are hundreds of community colleges in the country, Vermont only introduced them in the 1970s. The full time equivalency enrollment since 1990 has increased by 70 percent, and the number of students enrolled has increased by 1,700.

According to Donna Dalton, Dean of Academic and Student Affairs, one of the major differences between community colleges and four year colleges has to do with a sense of community. At a community college, there is no athletic department, residence halls, or a campus which are found at four year institutes.

Another difference is the kinds of programs offered. Community colleges offer many specialized programs that are linked towards more workforce needs, where four year colleges offer more traditionally based programs.

Cost is one of the major reasons why students opt for a community college over a four year college. Vermont CCV students pay $171 per credit, where instate Lyndon students pay $285 per credit. Out of state CCV students pay $342 per credit, while out-of-state Lyndon students pay $607.

"There definitely different," Dalton said. "They serve different needs and have a different mission. Community college is a good transitional step for individuals to see their potential and build confidence in themselves."

Last spring, LSC developed a curriculum with CCV that would allow students to make a smooth transition from an Associate's degree to a full four year Bachelors degree in either business, education, or human services. The plan was designed so that all credits would be accepted, and students would know exactly what they needed to take and wouldn't have to take extra courses.

"I think CCV does a wonderful job with students and they have such a dedicated faculty," Dalton said.

Lyndon State College students on YouTube

By ANDREW KOCH
CRITIC STAFF

In this era of personalized media, YouTube stands out from all the rest.

The online video giant receives hundreds of thousands of hits from users looking for everything from music videos to sports highlight clips to home videos and more.

Some LSC students have taken advantage of a feature on YouTube which allows members to upload their videos onto the Web site. Sixteen of these videos have been posted by LSC students.

The videos can be found by typing the words "Lyndon State College" into the site's search section.

Junior Eric Guillot is one student who has posted videos on the popular video site. He has uploaded two video clips.

His most recent post was back in mid-December. It involved sledding down a hill at three in the morning.

"In the video, my friend from home, Kyle Cazeault, was on the sled going down the hill from the Rita Bole Complex to the parking lot. He went off a small bump and almost crashed into me. I jumped out of the way at the last second," Guillot said, adding that Cazeault did hurt himself during the run.

Guillot's earlier clip was recorded in the fall of 2005. That video shows him pretending to be the Green Ranger from the original "Mighty Morphin' Power Rangers" television program, complete with theme music.

"Number one, I thought they were hilarious. Also, I wanted them to be able to be seen by my friends up here and at home. Anyone who searches LSC on the Internet will see us having fun at college. They'll see that we have some humor on campus," Guillot said.

Junior Resident Assistant Nate Rosetti has also posted a pair of videos on YouTube. His videos were from last fall's foosball tournament, an endeavor into which Rosetti says he has now invested a lot of time and money in order to purchase prizes for the tourney's participants.

"Everyone that was in the tournament was in the video. It was a kind of reflection video," Rosetti said.

He added that the videos were mostly still shots, along with a brief action clip.

"I thought it was a good way to advertise. I used it as a way to advertise events on campus. Plus, I enjoy making the videos as a way to give back to the competitors in the tournament," Rosetti said.

As YouTube continues to grow in popularity, it shouldn't come as a surprise if we see more videos about the fun part of campus life being posted by LSC students.

Dominant 2nd Half Leads Hornets to Victory

By JAKE MARDIN
CRITIC STAFF

A dominant second half by the LSC Hornets men's basketball team lead to a 71-54 win over the University of Maine-Machias in Machias Sunday night.

Down by two points at halftime, the Hornets scored 45 second-half points while only allowing 26 points to Machias.

Coach Randy Rathburn praised his team's stellar defense, saying that "[the first half] was one of our best halves all year." Rathburn said the Hornets used a 3-2 zone defense that caught Machias off guard.

As a result of the 3-2 zone, LSC was able to keep Machias to a 30 percent shooting percentage, as well as holding them 3 for 20 from behind the three-point line, an impressive performance against a team that averages 75 points per game.

Despite the fact that the Hornets shooting was much better in the second half, Rathburn says there were no major adjustments and it was just a matter of shots falling. LSC shot 38 percent in the first half while in the second half they improved to 57 percent.

Senior Brent Fowler led the Hornet's scoring attack with 20 points, which all came in the second half. Sophomore Kali Stoddard-Imari also had a solid game with 14 points and 11 rebounds. Fowler and Stoddard-Imari combined for 30 of the Hornet's 45 second-half points. Rathburn also praised sophomore Andrew Longley's performance, saying that "he did a very good job controlling the tempo."

The Hornets will see action on Saturday against Southern Maine Community College in their final home game of the year. The game will be played at 3 p.m.

Despite limited numbers, Lady Hornets making run at National Tournament

By JESSICA MILLHISER
CRITIC STAFF

"10 minutes left to go in the second half against St Joseph's of Maine, the other coach calls a time out. His girls are exhausted, bent over, hands on their knees; they have 15 players. My girls wanted to keep going, to keep running the ball; only six of them were playing the entire game," women's head coach Vincent Maloney recalled, though this was one of their three losses.

With a record of 11-3, the women's basketball team has proven they are here to win. Despite the fact that they have limited numbers this season, sophomore Jackie Wetzel says "the season is going well. A lot of people have underestimated our ability. We've stepped up and shown that we can play ball."

The team only has eight players, including the return of Kristin Petell, and has had their share of injuries this season.

Petell, who was injured in the accident last semester, has thus far been unable to play in the games due to the amount of make-up work she has had to catch up on. "It's frustrating not being able to play in games. I've been practicing with the team and watching the games from the sideline," Petell said.

The number of players on the team doesn't seem to bother them.

"Because of our small number we don't have an adequate number of subs, but we try not to panic or get in foul trouble," said Petell. "We make sure to stay in shape, stay conditioned and we are all very dedicated to the team," Wetzel added.

"Right from the beginning we've faced adversity - small numbers, injuries and accidents; it hasn't been easy," Maloney said.

As for the rest of the season, they know their competition but are simply dealing with it on an individual game basis. "Our goal is to make it to Oklahoma and we'll do it any way we can," Wetzel said.

"These girls deserve to go to the USCAA National Tournament at Rhema Bible College in Oklahoma; they've worked very hard this season. This team is so successful because there is no 'I.' The girls are very tight knit. They don't want to fail, not for their own sake, but for the sake of the person standing next to them," Maloney said.

Upcoming Games

February 3: Lydnon State College vs. Southern Maine Community College. Women @ 1 p.m., Men @ 3 p.m.
February 6: Lyndon State College Women vs. Mitchell College, 5:30 p.m
February 11: Lyndon State College Women vs. St. Joseph's College-Brooklyn, 1 p.m.
February 18: Lyndon State College Women vs Green Mountain College, 2 p.m.

All basketball games are held in the Stannard Gymnasium.

Hornet News

Sophomore forward Sara Fetterhoff was named the USCAA Women's College Basketball Player of the Week-Honorable Mention after two standout performances last week.

Fetterhoff was the Lady Hornets' leading scorer in both games last week, averaging 23 points and 8 rebounds, including a 25-point, 10-rebound effort in a win Sunday at UMaine-Machias.

Freshman Kristen Petell scored 10 points in her return to the Lady Hornets lineup on Sunday.

It was Petell's first game since being injured in a car accident at the end of last semester.

The men's team split their games last week. Brad Durr led the Hornets with 18 points and four boards in a loss against St. Joseph's, while captain Brent Fowler had 20 points against UMaine-Machias on Sunday.

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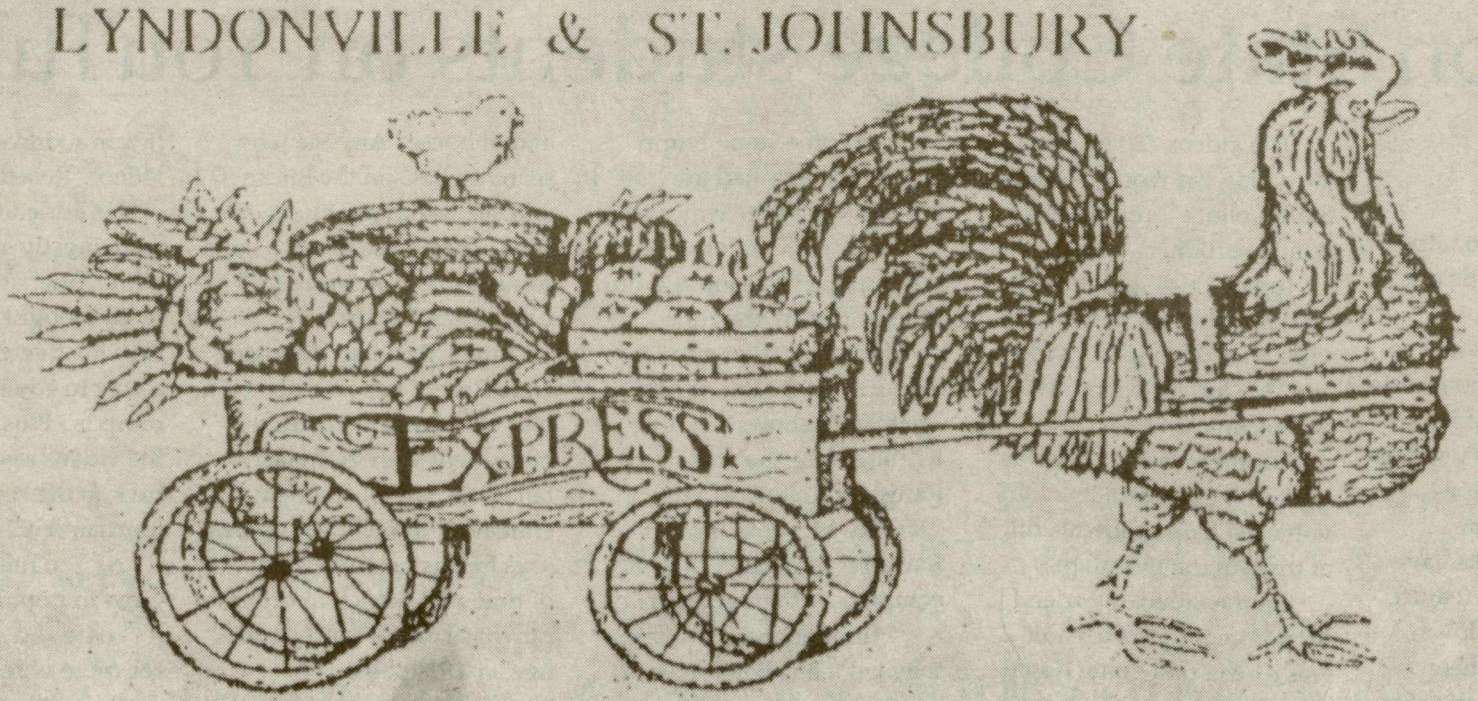

GROCERIES - MEATS - PRODUCE - DELICATESSEN

THE CRITIC

Serving the student voice of the Northeast Kingdom

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Lyndonville, Vermont | Friday, February 9, 2007 | Volume 53, Number 12

What's Inside

Stripping isn't a job most college students, male or female, would consider appealing but for one Business major on campus it is not only a good way to support himself as he gets through college, it is also a long term career goal.

Richard Dale Roy, who prefers to be called Dale, has been stripping in private shows for the past three months.

Pg. 2

If you watch the Public Safety officers patrol the LSC campus, and you look at their belts, you will notice many things missing.

Public Safety officers do not carry pepper spray, batons, or firearms. They do not carry weapons of any kind for that matter. This is because the Public Safety department is not a police service.

Pg. 3

Brent Fowler has been a captain of the men's basketball team at LSC for the last two years.

This year, he has led the Hornets through a season of change, as the school moves from the National Association of Interscholastic Athletics (NAIA)

Pg. 4

High tuition costs a continued concern for LSC students

By JOSHUA DAMASO
CRITIC STAFF

For many college students, it's a question possibly worth pondering more than any question they'll answer in the classroom.

"Is school worth the debt?"

With federal loan interest rates at an all-time high and the cost of a college education seemingly getting out of hand, many students around the country – particularly Vermont – are beginning to wonder whether or not a bachelor's degree is worth the debt that often accompanies it.

"If you ask me," said Carlos Taveras, a Lyndon State College sophomore, "yeah, it's too much money."

Though tuition has been climbing at colleges across the country – about three times the rate of inflation – Vermont in particular has solidified itself as one of the most expensive states for students.

"New England public colleges have typically had a higher tuition rate than other institutions," said Lyndon State College Dean of Administration Wayne Hamilton. "And [LSC's] expenses keep climbing."

> *"I'm worried that I won't find a job doing what I want to do," he said. "But I think [the cost] is worth it."*
>
> **-Carlos Taveras, LSC sophomore said.**

Hamilton has been working with LSC since 1990, and said the high cost of a Vermont education is the work of an imperfect financial storm. Hamilton said the biggest contributing to high tuition come from insurance costs, lack of state aid, and a lack of interstate financial aid programs, which particularly affects out-of-state Vermont State Colleges (VSC) students.

According to Hamilton, many states, like New York, have a system where financial aid for Vermont residents can be used when attending New York schools, but not vice-versa.

The most troublesome issue fueling high tuition rates, however, has less to do with interstate relations and more to do with intrastate relations.

"State appropriation used to be about 50 percent [of incoming VSC revenue]," Hamilton said, adding that for the 2006/2007 school year state-funded aid was down to 17 percent. "As state appropriation shrinks, it builds off of tuition."

Public funding in Vermont ranks 49th in the country, ahead of only New Hampshire - a state without a sales tax. For every $1,000 of personal income, Vermont contributes $3.45 towards higher education, while Wyoming, which ranks first, contributes $17.24. The small contribution is something VSC officials have been pushing hard to have state legislators fix for well over a decade.

"At some point we need to reverse this trend," Hamilton said. "There's just increasing pressure on tuition and fees."

Hamilton said students need to realize the importance of reaching out to legislators to help ease the burden of education costs in the state. Without student support it's hard to sway legislative bodies into redirecting money to statewide collegiate systems.

"This has been talked about for a long time," he said. "I think direct action is important."

Hamilton added that an enormously successful endowment program through the LSC alumni house has been a bright toward helping ease financial burden on students. In 2002, the school successfully crossed the $1 million threshold, and soon that number is expected to exceed $2 million. Through 1995, LSC had raised $400,000 in the program.

For now, many students like Taveras believe they'll do what they must to fund higher education – no matter the cost. Taveras said he believes it's worth it, but only if he doesn't have to wait long before getting into his field of work.

"I'm worried that I won't find a job doing what I want to do," he said. "But I think [the cost] is worth it."

Lapoint gets elected as SGA VP

After two resignations, the newly elected Vice President looks to re-gain student respect

By KEITH WHITCOMB
MANAGING EDITOR

After being appointed interim vice president on Monday by SGA President Adam Tracy, sophomore Hayley Lapoint was formally elected to the position of vice president by members of the House and Senate at a joint session on Wednesday.

Kerrin Wilmarth, the House representative for the Hockey club, was one of Tracy's initial picks for interim vice president, but Wilmarth declined. She also declined a nomination for vice president made by sophomore Senator Tim Lavigne.

Lavigne did not want Lapoint elected as vice president. "I was prepared to nominate anyone over her," Lavigne said. "I voted no."

Lavigne did not express his reasons for voting no but added "I still think she can do the job."

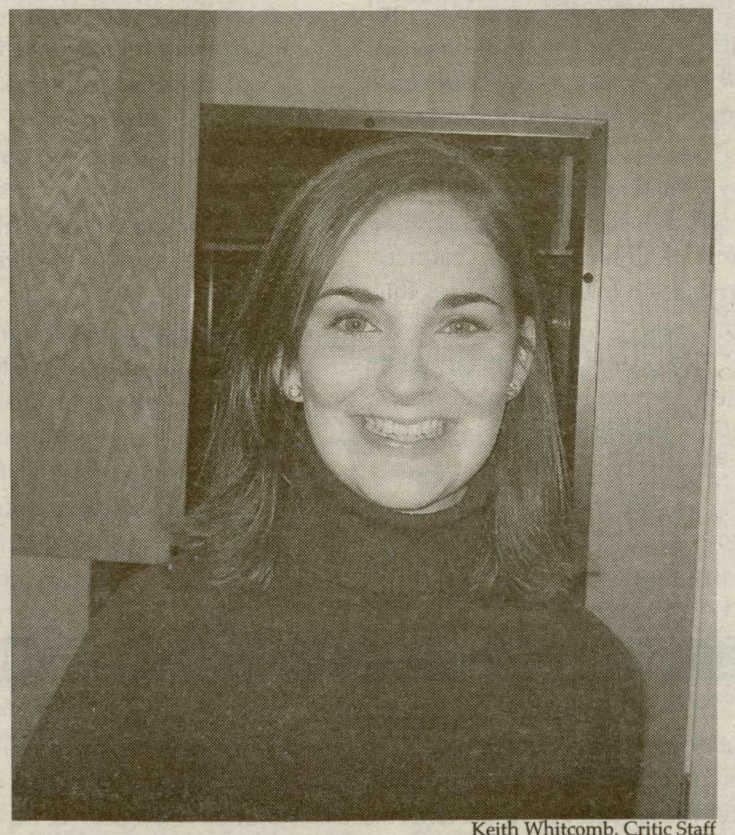
"I wasn't sure if I would be nominated," Lapoint said. "I thought I was perfectly well qualified."

Lapoint has served as a Senator and as SGA secretary in the past.

One of Lapoint's goals as vice president is to get the student body more informed about what the SGA is doing. She has considered putting out a news letter and even posting information on bathroom walls where people would be apt to see it. Lapoint stressed that it would not be another version of The Buzz, but would only serve to inform the student body about SGA activities such as committee meetings.

Lapoint would also like to make the names and faces of student senators known to the rest of the LSC community. She would also like to restore student confidence in the SGA.

Tracy does not plan to do anything different within his term except to make a more workable student government and to get the job done.



Keith Whitcomb, Critic Staff

Sophomore Hayley Lapoint will now serve as Vice President of the SGA. Lapoint has served on the SGA as a senator and secretary for the past two years.

LSC's own Chip n' "Dale"

By SARAH DONAGHY
CRITIC STAFF

Stripping isn't a job most college students, male or female, would consider appealing, but for one Business major on campus it is not only a good way to support himself as he gets through college, it is also a long term career goal.

Richard Dale Roy, who prefers to be called Dale, has been stripping in private shows for the past three months. He started by auditioning at "Hard Bodies" in White River Junction. While he liked the idea of stripping he didn't like the "meat show" that he felt the establishment perpetuated.

Roy had already been escorting for three months when he began doing private strip shows. His clientele is built up entirely by word of mouth. Perspective clients contact him via an untraceable cell phone number, to ensure his privacy and safety, and set up a time and place for the show.

When setting up for an escort, a client arranges for a "date" with Roy. These "dates" may involve dinner, dancing, a movie, and/or some special event. "It doesn't matter what you're doing," Roy said. "It's just treating a person how they should be treated…with no physical contact."

The idea of stripping had appealed to Roy but the real reason he says he decided to do it was because he was told he couldn't. As a man in his mid-thirties, who was out of shape by most standards for male strippers, he realized he had a lot of work ahead of him if he wanted to be successful in the field.

What he found after he began was that it not only took a lot of work to get started but also a lot of work to maintain the appearance that is expected for stripper. Not only did he have to spend a lot of time in the gym, but he had to be very diligently groomed as well.

Roy found that as a stripper he was expected to be very clean with manageable hair and nails manicured and polished with clear nail polish. Chest hair had to be kept "toned down" and excess body hair in any area that showed had to be removed. He had to maintain a tan and use lots of oils and lotions.

Roy estimates that for every hour he spends working he probably spends 20 minutes preparing his body for the stage. This he says is nowhere near the amount of preparatory work that the female strippers go through. "Once I started it was like 'wow, those girls do a lot!'" Roy said.

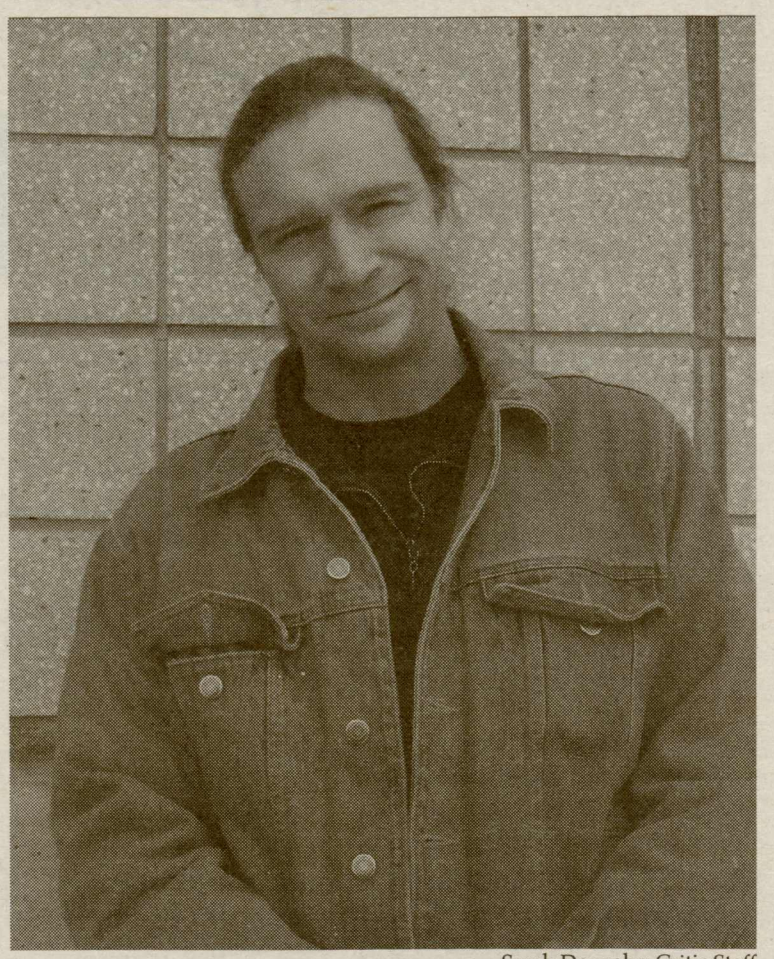
While this is the way that Roy supports himself, money isn't the only thing he gets out of the business. "I keep doing it for a combination of reasons," Roy said. "I do it for the self-esteem, there aren't many people out there right now, and there is a need for older men to be nice to older women because their husbands treat them [badly]."

Stripping does have an impact on his personal life though. "The hardest thing is finding women who understand that it's just dancing, nothing else. Relationships don't survive that much."

The stereotype follows him even when he's not on the job. "Most people think that if you're a dancer you're a player, you smoke dope, you're a hard drinker and all those sorts of things but you don't. You're just a normal person. That goes for men and women too."

Even the clientele can be hypocrites. Speaking of some of the members of his community Roy said, "They persecute you one day and pay you the next."

While Roy enjoys his job, and hopes to go on to open his own dance hall for people in their 30s and 40s in this area when he graduates, he warns that dancing and escorting is not for every student. He feels money and healthy lifestyle can be a big bonus but the long hours, trouble with relationships, and stigma that go along with the job can be more than many can handle.



Sarah Donaghy, Critic Staff

Dale Roy, a business major has spent the last three months stripping to put himself through college.

Northeast Kingdom getting unwired: business students tackle high-tech mapping project

By DANIELLE SYKES
CRITIC STAFF

When three Lyndon State College seniors decided to dedicate months to mapping every aspect of the Northeast Kingdom, they didn't foresee how challenging it would be, or the recognition they would receive.

Rebecca Armstrong, Alex Ibey and Lloyd MacCormack's completed project will be used by St. Johnsbury's Northern Community Investment Corporation to bring wireless Internet to the area.

"This project is important to this region's future in a number of ways," said Jon Freeman, president of NCIC.

They've been in the spotlight lately, but this is because the governor is now suggesting that wireless Internet throughout the state is imperative, said Armstrong.

Wireless Internet in northern Vermont would support the further development of the economy, schools, medical community and public safety, according to Freeman.

The students used the program Arcmap to compile the information they gathered onto one map. They charted all buildings and separated them into four categories: residential, commercial, government and miscellaneous. Buildings were represented by dots on the map.

"We had to teach ourselves how to use the program," said MacCormack. Between sighs, they described how the elaborate system could stump them for long periods of time.

It could take five hours to figure out how to change the color of a dot, said Ibey, "I'm getting frustrated just thinking about it."

When they reached roadblocks, they would rely on John Deleo, a recreation professor. Without the assistance of Deleo and another student, Stephan Vasquez, the project would have been close to impossible, said the students.

Armstrong, Ibey and MacCormack also mapped roads, contours and existing cable and DSL.

The information they used had been available, but they were the first in Vermont to put it together in a presentable format. Now that there is an organized map, NCIC can decide where it is best to put infrastructure.

In the Northeast Kingdom, 25 towers are needed and receptors on silos and churches would provide access for everyone. Freeman anticipates minimal opposition to the towers.

"They'll look similar to telephone poles with crossbars at the top," he said. The tree line is 65 feet at maximum, and the towers must be 20 feet above the tree line. Cell towers are twice the height and bulkier according to Freeman.

"It's more subtle than most technology," said Armstrong.

"This isn't a technology based economy," said Ibey, but "we're bringing something to the area that people don't have."

The students won't see the results of their work for three to five years, but the positive implications are endless, said Freeman. "They were professional, responsive and delivered high quality."

Armstrong, Ibey and MacCormack soon meet with Legislature in Montpelier and are also presenting their project at Jay Peak.

Portner Prize applications sought

Through the generosity of Professors Richard and Terry Portner, an endowment has been created that will offer recognition of consistent interest and achievement in the Fine and Performing Arts at LSC. This may include course work, community service, internships, and extra-curricular participation in the disciplines of Music, Art, and Theater.

The Portner Prize is offered to Juniors and Seniors and will include a cash award that can be used as the student chooses. To be considered for the prize, students will:

submit a cover letter summarizing their involvement in the Arts;

prepare a brief explanation of why the Fine & Performing Arts are important to self, community, curriculum, etc.;

include a resume, portfolio or DVD, CD, etc., of their work.

The Portner Prize Committee will adjudicate the submissions and will recommend the strongest candidate.

The committee hopes to award the first prize at the Rising Student awards ceremony on March 22. Send your cover letters and materials to Pat Webster at the Samuel Read Hall Library or electronically, if appropriate, to:

patricia.webster@lsc.vsc.edu.

If mailed in this way, the cover letter and additional materials should be sent as an attachment. The deadline is March 1.

Moments Like This: Forty-eight Seconds

By TRISH PENNYPACKER
CRITIC COLUMNIST

All eyes are fixed on the active bodies struggling to gain possession of the ball on the basketball court. Parents scream, "Shoot! Shoot!" as if their voices could give the boy the power to make a basket. As the boy shoots, the crowd silently prays for, or against, the accuracy of his shot. No one seems to notice Jake, who sits quietly with his team mates, longing to play, only to be sent onto the court during the last forty-eight seconds of the third quarter. "Good hustle," the coach cheers after the buzzer sounds and the boy returns to the sidelines with his team. "Take a seat, son. Hey, Josh! I want you to fill in for Jake. Make sure you keep your hands up straight, and don't let them through. I don't want any more fouls. You hear?" And after only forty-eight seconds on the court, Jake sits back down in his metal chair.

Jake is in the third grade. Like most of the other boys on his team, this is his first year playing basketball. It is a crucial year. The personal success of a player's first year, often determines whether or not that player will continue participating in sports.

My son, Joshua likes sports. When he was six, we lived in Florida and he passionately wanted to play tee-ball. For a week after sign-ups, he wore his bright red Cardinals' shirt tucked neatly into his grey pants. His new cleats tracked mud all over my kitchen floor, and the only time that he took the glove off of his right hand was when he sat down to eat dinner. Sadly, his enthusiasm was short lived.

After standing outfield under the brutal Florida sunshine, waiting for the ball that never came his way, he began to wonder what fun there was in playing baseball. Although he finished out the season, and we moved to Vermont, he refused to play baseball in the following years; but he was willing to try other sports.

Last year was his first year playing basketball. During his first game, he scored two points. I probably embarrassed him with my excited cheers, but I will never forget the pride that flashed over his face as teammates plummeted his back with congratulatory slaps.

As the season progressed, a second coach took over the team. Instead of playing often, Josh became a relief player in the final seconds of a quarter, filling in for the children his new coach knew well. It was difficult for me to watch him squirming patiently on the bench, chewing his lips in frustration. Sometimes, I could see that he was fighting back tears, but as soon as he was put into the game, his frustration became determination and he would usually score for his team. As he began to focus on what he accomplished, instead of the amount of time he played, he began to enjoy basketball.

Josh's determination and accomplishments made up for him warming the seat most of the season. This year he has gone on to play most of each game, and for this I cringe. Although I enjoy little more than watching my son run up and down the court, his blonde hair matted in sweat and his eyes glazed with concentration, I realize that for every second that my son is on the court, another child is warming the bench.

Like all the other team fans, I cheer loudly for my home team, and I dance with excitement as the crowd swells with the enthusiasm of victory. But there is sorrow in victory, if the victory was made at another child's expense. At the third and fourth grade level, all children should be played equally. At this age, the parents and coaches should be ashamed when the common goal lies in the winning, not in the spirit of the game.

I shake my head in frustration as I watch Jake take his seat. The roar of the crowd draws my attention back onto the court. My son has stopped dribbling the ball, and is surrounded by opposing team mates. In a swift move, he throws the ball into Adam's open arms. "Shoot, Adam," I cry with the crowd. Adam, a common bench-warmer, tosses his head back and shoots. My fingers are crossed; I'm silently praying, and with a Swoosh! The ball sinks in. Nothing but net! Adam's face flushes with the pride of an achiever. I know Adam is thankful too, because only seconds after his applauded shot, the buzzer sounds, and he sits down next to Jake while the first string returns to the court.

Watching the clock, the boys' play grows sloppy in their hurry to make one more shot before time runs out. Unlike the boys who play all of the time, the bench-warmers are used to the ticking of the clock; they know that a lot can happen in only forty-eight seconds.

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Message from the Student Government Association

Senate meets every Thursday at 7 PM; everyone is welcome to voice their opinions!

These past few weeks, the Senators have been busily preparing the Spring Day festivities. Spring Day is sponsored every year by the SGA and is a fun day full of activities, games, and entertainment. This year, Spring Day will be held Saturday, April 14. Senators have been trying to come up with a theme and events for the day. If you have any ideas, please e-mail or speak to anyone of the Senators.

Part of a Senators' job requires them to sit on campus wide committees. Some of the committees include the Strategic Planning Committee. This committee is currently working on a new school mission statement. Senator Tim Lavigne sits on this committee. Contact him if you have any suggestions for the new mission statement. There is also the Sustainability committee. Two Senators, Mike Dana and Justin Sinkevich, sit on this committee. Recent discussion has been about recycling on the LSC campus. If you have any ideas or comments about recycling on the LSC campus contact those Senators. The Commencement Committee plans the both the yearly Commencements, Awards Ceremonies, and other ceremonies. If you have any suggestions, please contact Hayley LaPoint, Vice President., whom sits on that committee.

Watch for the SGA Senators to be selling their annual chocolate lollipops at The Vagina Monologues on Thursday, February 16. You sure don't want to miss these!

House of Representatives

The House meets Wednesdays bi-weekly at 8 PM; these meetings are also open to everyone.

House met Wednesday night. The start of the budgeting process was discussed. Budgeting will officially begin on March 7. The club American Women in Radio and Television (AWRT) requested funding for a conference in March. The House voted to give them the funding. The Ice Hockey club also presented to House, asking for money from the General fund to go to the playoffs in Connecticut. The House did vote to give them the funds.

Following that, the LSC Chapter of the American Meteorological Society (AMS) did a presentation about the National AMS Conference. Three members of the club, Jim Politis, Ryan Low, and Andrew Little, attended the conference in San Antonio that the SGA funded. They presented photos and testimony from their trip.

Lastly, the House discussed the SGA's effort to clean up the campus called "Campus Beautification". Every two weeks, a club is picked to do some sort of community service on campus. This past week was the club Sigma Zeta. Last Monday, they picked up cigarette butts all over the campus. They ended up picking up around 5 pounds of butts!

The House will meet again on February 21.

Executive Board: Adam Tracy- President, Hayley LaPoint- Vice President, Steve Merrill- Treasurer, Jon Maciel-Secretary Senators: Tim Lavigne, Mike Dana, Casey Morrison, Stephan Gingras, Justin Sinkevich.

Fowler ending career with good memories

Sarah Donaghy, Critic Staff

Brent Fowler dribbles the ball upcourt during his last home game on Saturday against SMCC.

By ANDREW R. KOCH
Critic Staff

Brent Fowler has been a captain of the men's basketball team at LSC for the last two years.

This year, he has led the Hornets through a season of change, as the school moves from the National Association of Interscholastic Athletics (NAIA) to the United States College Athletic Association (USCAA). This change has led to some stressful times this season for the Hornets.

"It's been an awesome four years," Fowler said before practice Wednesday. "I met a lot of cool people here, and I'm going to miss it."

Fowler also said that he got a lot out of going to Lyndon both socially and academically, not just athletically.

"I got a lot out of it. Playing basketball was great under Coach Berry and now Coach (Randy) Rathburn. I learned a lot from them. I loved the program I was in with the Recreation Department," Fowler said.

Fowler would like to see someone who can be a leader on and off the court be the team's next captain, along with someone people will listen and look up to, as well as someone who can lead the team through the good times and the bad, both on and off the court.

"A number of people can be the captain on this team. Everyone respects each other on this team. No one's above each other," Fowler said.

During Saturday's Senior Day ceremony, Rathburn told the crowd that Fowler's smile was the biggest he'd seen in the last four years. Fowler responded by saying that his facial expression on the basketball court is much different from his expression while around campus.

"I smile all the time. I'm probably the biggest smiler in school. I do take basketball seriously, but I like to have fun at the same time. Basketball is something you have to take seriously in order to have fun with it."

"He puts on a stoic game face at game time. He comes ready to play, and he makes sure everyone else is ready to play," Rathburn said, adding that Fowler does take basketball seriously, to a point.

Rathburn hopes that whoever is the next captain will bring the same qualities to the role that Fowler brought. He wants the captain to lead by example with hard work and dedication, both academically and athletically.

Both Fowler and Rathburn agree that both Mike Paul and Brad Durr would make good captains to lead the team next year.

Hornets' basketball sweeps Seawolves

By JAKE MARDIN
Critic staff

With his family in the stands, Senior captain Brent Fowler had 21 points, eight rebounds and six assists in his final LSC home game on Saturday as the Hornet men's basketball team defeated Southern Maine Community College 88-78 on Senior Day.

It was an emotional night for the Hornets, Coach Randy Rathburn said. "The other guys wanted nothing more than to get Brent a win in his last home game."

Rathburn remembers when he was working as an admissions councilor four years ago when he got an e-mail from Fowler expressing interest in attending LSC. "I knew I was going to get a young man who was going to give it his all," Rathburn said.

Four years later, that proved to be the case. Rathburn praised Fowler's abilities on and off the court, saying that he's been a leader since he was a freshman and "a great young man who is a model student-athlete."

Also leading the Hornet's to victory was sophomore Kali Stoddard-Imari with 26 points and 13 rebounds, and junior Brad Durr with 16 points and nine rebounds.

The Lady Hornets were also in action Saturday against Southern Maine Community College, winning 62-42. Sophomore Jen White paced the team with 19 points and 12 rebounds, while sophomore Jackie Wetzel 12 points and six rebounds.

On Sunday, both teams traveled to New York to take on Paul Smith's College. The Lady Hornets took the court first and dominated the Bobcats 83-38. Coach Vincent Maloney said that consistent outside shooting plus dominating defense contributed to the victory.

Sophomores Kelly Warren and Sara Fetterhoff both had double-doubles, with Warren scoring 20 points and pulling down 13 rebounds, while Fetterhoff had 12 points and 10 rebounds.

The men's team took the court next and came up short against the Bobcats with Paul Smith's College winning 91-77. Rathburn said that the team was emotionally drained from the previous night's game and lacked intensity and focus.

Brent Fowler had 24 points, including six three-pointers, eight rebounds, and six assists, while Kali Stoddard-Imari had 19 points and eight rebounds.

The Lady Hornet's next game will be against Saint Joseph's-Brooklyn in Lyndonville on Sunday, while the men travel to Johnson to take on Johnson State College on Tuesday.

THE CRITIC

Serving the student voice of the Northeast Kingdom

FREE

Lyndonville, Vermont | Wednesday, February 21, 2007 | Volume 53, Number 13

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The Lyndon State College radio station WWLR can soon be listened to around the world. The station recently completed streaming, which enables it to broadcast online, allowing anyone with Internet the ability to listen to shows.

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A new VSC policy is being enacted with the safety of students in mind, but some are questioning whether these new security measures are needed.

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Four students, under the direction of Professor Anthony Sgherza, the head of Exercise Science at Lyndon State, have begun a personal training program in the weight room on campus.

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Junior Brad Durr scored 24 points against Johnson State College last Tuesday to put him over the 1,000 point mark for his career.

Pg. 8

Who wants to be a millionaire?

Moore announced largest donation at State of the College Address

By KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
CRITIC STAFF

"I am pleased to announce that Lyndon has received its first $1 million gift," Carol Moore, president of LSC said at the State of the College address last Friday.

The donor wished to only be known as the Valade Family Trust, Moore said.

"How much of that am I getting?" Jason Cook, a junior Business major said. "I think it's amazing that a bunch of flatlanders are going to be getting my money."

"I think that in addition to that, everyone in the school should get an envelope with a dollar in it. Just to make us feel like a part of the process," Mathew Wojcik, junior TVS major, said.

Moore showed a breakdown of the ways in which the $1 million will be spent. One hundred thousand dollars will go to moving the Academic Support Center to the Samuel Read Hall Library, $200,000 will go to "quality improvements" and "student success", $100,000 will go to an endowment for "lecture in the arts", $200,000 will got to "faculty development", $325,000 will go towards "matching endowments," and $75,000 will go to architectural models for a new academic center and student center.

Moore also announced that the ViaSat company had given $500,000 in computer technology to the college, thus upgrading the college's system to one gigabit. Richard Baldridge, president and CEO of ViaSat, a San Diego based company, spoke to those assembled about the gift via phone. "I just know that it's IT equipment and they're happy," Moore said.

Torben Kinner, Special to the Critic

President Carol Moore talks with Richard Baldridge, CEO of ViaSat in San Diego via phone. Baldridge and his company donated $500,000 worth of computer technology to LSC.

The gift came as the result of an after-church meeting between chairwoman of the Board of Visitors, Peggy Thomas-Kezar, and Bob Wilson, an employee of ViaSat. "You never know who you are talking to and what's going to come out of it," Moore said.

The gift means that there is now a relationship between LSC and ViaSat, Chuck Kezar said.

Moore cited the importance of LSC gathering its own funds because financial aid from the state is low.

Among other news that Moore announced was a three percent increase in students for the spring semester, a slight slippage from last semester. Moore also said that LSC is on track with the budget, but the carry-over funds from last semester aren't as high due to medical claims that were filed.

LSC students and officials discuss gay athletes

By JOSHUA DAMASO
CRITIC STAFF

Two weeks after former NBA basketball player John Amaechi revealed his homosexuality, several LSC athletes and coaches reflected on how they would react to having gay athletes and teammates on campus.

While many athletes expressed shame that homophobia is even an issue in sports, all agreed that what's most important is a person's production as an athlete and not their sexual preference.

"It's none of your business really [to know]," said LSC Baseball Student Coach Justin Polayes. "We get [angrier] when people don't show up or practice hard. It doesn't matter what they're like off the field."

Polayes admitted that while player sexuality doesn't matter, the only difficult part of having a gay teammate would be remembering to be respectful toward their lifestyle.

"A team full of guys will always be a team full of guys," he said.

Because of that, he believes it would be better if a gay teammate came out and shared their thoughts to avoid feeling isolated.

"I'd probably just want them to [come out], because you never know how sensitive people are," he said.

In 2005, a gay athlete media frenzy began after former WNBA star Sheryl Swoops became one of the most recognizable pro athletes to reveal being homosexual. Aside from Swoops, six other former pro athletes, including Amaechi, have confirmed their homosexuality. But so far, no pro athletes have come out while still active in their sport; a trend that has many collegiate and professional officials worried about the state of life for gay athletes in locker rooms.

LSC basketball head coach Randy Rathburn, however, is not one of those people. He believes coaches and players at Lyndon State are mature enough to handle personal differences in favor of what's important on the court.

"I think athletes on my team would be open and fine with the situation," he said. "I don't think it would be an issue at all."

Rathburn said if there was an issue of discrimination somewhere along the line, it simply wouldn't be dealt with.

"If there was an issue I'd do something [disciplinary] to that particular person," he said, adding that he and his current roster all share the same positive attitude toward accepting gay teammates.

"It's OK for someone to have [homosexual] feelings," he said.

Members of the LSC women's rugby team echoed those thoughts. One of which, who is openly gay, said LSC does a great job accepting different people.

"As a lesbian on the team I don't feel uncomfortable," said Emily West, who said she's always felt respected by her teammates.

Teammate Kerrin Jeromin, who is also a member of the school's volleyball team, said a co-athlete's sexual preference makes no difference to her.

"It just doesn't matter," she said. "You're a team. We play a sport with lesbian players; It doesn't make a difference."

Another one of West's rugby teammates, Teresa Walton, agreed with Jeromin.

"Sexuality has nothing to do with athletic ability," she said.

After hearing about a recent interview in which former NBA star Tim Hardaway said he hated gay people, West said Hardaway's opinion simply isn't worth the time if you're a gay athlete.

Hardaway, who also said, "I don't like to be around gay people," and, "I'm homophobic," has been under heavy scrutiny since his comments became national news. After being barred from representing the NBA because of his comments, Hardaway has twice publicly apologized.

For West, it's not about listening to people like Hardaway, but instead finding her own comfort zone as a gay athlete.

"It all depends on how comfortable a person is," she said. "People might say stupid things, but you just ignore it."

WWLR goes international with streaming

By MARY WHEELER
EDITOR

The Lyndon State College radio station WWLR can soon be listened to around the world. The station recently completed streaming, which enables it to broadcast online, allowing any individual with Internet access to listen to the shows.

"I think it's awesome," Carmen Henry, DJ "smallz" said. Henry, who hosts a techno/hip-hop show, feels that streaming will greatly affect the school. "I think it will up our publicity, and more people will listen around the United States and outside of this area. My high school friends and family will now be able to listen to my show."

With months of preparation, the station wired the first floor of Vail to obtain Internet access. Streaming takes the music that's played over their FM transmitter and coverts it into a digital signal that goes out over the Internet.

The idea of streaming was brought up about 16 months ago by the management of WWLR. They began discussing their strategic goals for the future of the organization and streaming online became their number one priority.

The strategic plan had started to yield results through improvements to the station. This included renovating their transmitter, streaming, and through agreement with northeastsportsnet.com and Eric Berry using his live remote equipment to broadcast school events.

The process to stream was a long and complicated one including preparing a budget and speaking with various engineers. The first floor of Vail had never been wired for Internet access, and the college wanted to wait on adding the Internet connection, Jeremy Lacey, general manager, said.

However, the station wanted to continue with the streaming concept and decided to pay for the installations through fundraising. The total cost for just WWLR to wire was $1,200, and to wire all of the first floor Vail was close to $9,000 which the station paid for out of its underwriting funds.

Lacey said that some of the long-term goals and benefits of streaming will include recruitment, community outreach, and allow families to become better connected with the school.

"The radio station has become a great asset to the college," Lacey said. "Streaming represents one of the major historic evolutions for LSC."

The programs will soon be heard at www.lyndonstate.edu/wwlr.

Andrew Koch, Critic Staff

Carmen Henry, DJ "smallz," does her radio show Monday afternoon. Soon Henry's show can be heard on the Internet through WWLR's recent completion of streaming.

Advocacy group fights to ban contraceptives

By KATHLEEN FITZGERALD
THE DAILY VIDETTE (ILLINOIS STATE U.)
(U-WIRE)

Third-generation oral contraceptives, those containing desogestrel, cause a greater risk of deadly blood clots, according to an advocacy group in Washington, D.C., who is pushing to ban the drugs.

Sidney Wolfe, M.D., director of the Public Citizen Health Research Group, said third-generation contraceptives have no benefit and double a woman's risk of venous thrombosis, potentially deadly blood clots that typically occur in the lower extremities, but can occur in the abdomen, veins of the brain, upper extremities and in superficial veins of the extremities.

Wolfe, whose research group sent a petition to the FDA Feb. 6, said even the first studies completed in the early 1990s confirmed that third-generation pills increased the risk, but nothing has been done.

"There's no explanation for doctors giving out these prescriptions," he said, adding that doctors know of the increased risk, but continue to prescribe.

Heather Dudley, D.O., of Associates in Obstetrics and Gynecology broke down the risk factor.

A healthy woman not taking birth control has a four out of 100,000 chance of getting a blood clot. A low-dose contraceptive, one with 35 micrograms of estrogen or less, increases her risk to 10-15 out of 100,000. When a woman becomes pregnant, her risk increases to 60 out of 100,000.

Women who smoke or who have blood clotting in their family history have an increased risk as well.

Any woman about to go on birth control should check with their family first, to see if they have a strong history of blood clotting, Dudley said.

"I typically ask [patients] if they have a risk of blood clotting in their family," Dudley said.

Dudley said blood clots usually form in the legs and most people will notice a clot if they have swelling or pain in the leg. Clots can also form in the lungs and one sign of this is shortness of breath.

According to research done by Public Citizen, third generation contraceptives increase a woman's risk of venous thrombosis from 15 out of 100,000 to 30 out of 100,000.

"I don't think doctors want to hurt their patients so they must have rationalized it somehow," he said of prescribing the third-generation pills.

"Doctors receive pressure from drug retail companies and they get into their habits," he said.

Wolfe said the Health Research Group at Public Citizen spends most of their time monitoring prescription drugs.

"We've had calls and e-mails from women who have almost died from venous thrombosis," he said.

Kerri Matthews, senior finance, insurance and law major, said she would ask her doctor before taking a third-generation pill.

"I probably would not take the pill if there were a higher chance of blood clotting. That just scares me and I don't think I would take that risk," Matthews said.

Public safety not packing heat

By CALEB BYERLY
CRITIC STAFF

If you watch the Public Safety officers patrol the LSC campus, and you look at their belts, you will notice many things missing.

Public Safety officers do not carry pepper spray, batons, or firearms. They do not carry weapons of any kind for that matter. This is because the Public Safety department is not a police service.

According to the VSC Public Safety Crime Awareness Report, "Members of the [Public Safety] department are not certified police officers and do not have police authority."

This means that the officers are not allowed to make arrests or carry weapons.

Upon his retirement as a police officer, Public Safety Director George Hacking relinquished his authority to make arrests and does not carry a weapon.

"We carry no specialized weapons at all." Hacking said.

What the Public Safety department can do is enforce the college's policies, issue parking tickets, and protect students and property. In order for Lyndon State College's Public Safety officers to carry weapons, the VSC administrative officials would have to approve funding and training to turn the officers into certified law enforcement officers.

The VSC policy states that Vermont State Police will "provide backup to college personnel upon request."

Within this past school year, Public Safety has only been forced to call the state police, on average, once every two months.

Early in the fall semester there were three instances where Public Safety felt it necessary to call the police to escort an unruly student.

The University of Vermont does not fall into the category of the Vermont State College system and has its own working Police Service, which is certified by CALEA (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies Inc.).

"In the world of law enforcement, there is something known as the 'ladder of force', and I believe that unless we are going to invest a lot of money and training, our ladder of force should remain where it is: verbal," Hacking said.

Moments Like This Cold in the Kingdom

By TRICIA PENNYPACKER
CRITIC COLUMNIST

It is the middle of February and the bone-chilling temperatures and short, dark days do nothing for my spirit. I do not ski. This is not because I do not want to, but because I never learned how, nor could I justify the expense. I enjoy ice-skating, but find the artificial air in the rink even more chilling than the air outside. Sadly, I must admit that I no longer enjoy New England winters. I bide my time from December, after my Norman Rockwell idea of a white Christmas either came true or didn't, until the sap stops running in April, and the peep-frogs start their evening chorus. Until then, I spend much of my time beneath a thick, fleece blanket, sipping hot tea and catching up on the reading that I am too active for during the warmer months. Sometimes, in these dark hours, I contemplate why I am living in the Northeast Kingdom, a place where people quickly shut their doors against the cold, and seemingly, the world around them.

Growing up in the Northeast Kingdom, I was eager to leave my hometown for a fresh start in life. I traded my winter boots and heavy parka for a pair of Birkenstocks and cut off Levi's, and the cold mountains for the warm, flat Floridian coastline. I entered an unfamiliar world where strangers stopped to help when I was stranded on the side of the road, and women in the grocery stores would befriend me instantly. The compassion and strength of the county surprised me.

On muggy evenings, front porches were full of chatter and laughter. People bustled through their week, sometimes working two or three jobs to support a family. They knew how to stretch a whole chicken to feed more than one family. Clothes were passed from one family to the next as children grew. There was never the sense of abundance there, but there was always enough.

By the weekend the fish were frying, the drinks were cold and the tailgates were lowered as the entire town rallied together at the high school's football game.

Although I loved this sense of belonging, I missed the mountains, the changing of the seasons, and even the snow. More than that, I missed the quaint farmhouses nestled in the valleys, the stoic maple trees and the crooked stone walls that dotted the countryside. Whether I like it or not, I am a northern country girl. I can immerse myself in a place and a culture as I did at sixteen when I spent a summer in Australia, or when I gained a broader perspective on American life as I spent months on the road traveling across the states with my family, but I cannot cut the heart strings that tug me back to Vermont, a place that both confuses and comforts me.

Having witnessed the struggle of the South, I was amazed that the people seemed to accept their life with good humor, as though their trials were inevitable. Here, struggles seem to make or break people. People either give up too easily, or they fail to take pride in overcoming the odds. Instead, I see a community that feeds off of the past, griping about ancient wounds as though they were fresh. I see Vermonters so stuck in their groove that they refuse to accept new people, new laws, and new ideas. They shut their doors to strangers and completely miss the benefit of merging ideas and traditions.

I wonder how a place with such beauty and promise can be so challenging. Everything here is a challenge. Depending on the season, the commute through snowy, icy, muddy, or rutty roads is a challenge. Finding affordable and enjoyable entertainment, in a diverse upper and lower class society can be a challenge. Trying not to jump on the band-wagon as people move away in search of higher paying jobs, and more affordable housing, is becoming a greater challenge.

I miss the hospitality of the South as I am confronted with my own isolation. I tell myself that I am too busy to strengthen friendships, and that maybe someday, if life slows down (which I know it never really does), I will have the energy to do all the things I long to do, and my friends will also have the time to spare. This is really just an excuse for not wanting to step outside of my warm home, and face the chill of the world, not wanting to confront the reality that we have become a close-minded society, each believing that our way of doing things is the only way to do them.

Ideally, I would love to see the Northeast Kingdom flourish with beauty, generosity, and compassion combined. I want to rid the notion that a cold environment breeds cold hearts. Maybe then the winters wouldn't seem so endlessly cruel. Until then, I guess I need to toss my blanket aside and venture out into the crisp air, maybe start a few friendships along the way.

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Lyndonville, Vt. 05851

Message from the Student Government

Since the last elections earlier this semester, there have been a few new faces added to the Senate. The newly elected Senators are Casey Morrison, Stephan Gingras, and Derek Toews.

At the last Senate meeting, Freshman Wesley Bell, was elected into the Senate. This brings the Senate to seven members. If you are interested in joining the Senate, making decisions that effect students on the LSC campus, please don't hesitate to contact anyone of the Senators or the Executive Board.

The Senate will be meeting Thursday, February 22 at 7 p.m. They will be discussing their respective committees, Spring Day festivities, and the Vermont State Colleges Student Association (VSCSA) monthly meeting. All Senate meetings are open to all!

The House will be meeting this week. There will be many things discussed. First, Hannah Manley (Director of Alumni Affairs) will be talking to the House about Institutional Advancement and the club fundraising forms. Next, the clubs Outside the Box (OTB), Chess, and LAN Party Club (LPC) will be presenting their club constitutions. Outside the Box will also be presenting a proposal to the House. The club is asking for money from the General Fund for trips to Boston and/or Concord, NH.

The club Sigma Zeta will be talking the House about a new fundraiser they will be working on. They are planning a club wide "Penny War" fundraiser. Lastly, there will be discussion about the upcoming budgeting process. Budgeting meetings will begin right after break on March 7.

SGA Fast Fact: Each semester, every full-time student at LSC must pay an $84 Student Activities Fee. Do you know what that money is going toward? Do you want to have input on where the money goes?

Well, the SGA Senators and House Representatives delegate and vote on this money. If you'd like to be a part of that, then join the SGA or contact a Senator. Your voice can be heard and your input will be put into action.

Executive Board: Adam Tracy-President, Hayley La-Point- Vice President, Steve Merrill- Treasurer, Jon Maciel-Secretary. Senators: Wesley Bell, Mike Dana, Stephan Gingras, Tim Lavigne, Casey Morrison, Justin Sinkevich, Derek Toews

Hayley LaPoint
SGA Vice President

LSC staff and students discuss new mission statement

By KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
MANAGING EDITOR

Those with a say in the drafting of LSC's new mission statement are of different minds as to what approach to take in its writing.

Two schools of thought have cropped up around the issue. The one voiced by English Professor Richard Moye, is that the mission statement should be a complete, clear, statement of the college's purpose. Such a statement would require a lot of words to make its point.

"My problem is that it's not specific enough. I don't see how the current mission statement can shape our actual practice."

English Professor Richard Moye said on the current LSC mission statement.

The other strategy for the mission statement, expressed by the administration and members of the Strategic Planning Committee, is to have a short, concise mission statement that a student could easily memorize and be able to recite if asked.

"What we do is more important and more complicated than that," Moye said. Moye thought that the goal of the SPC was to make the college's mission statement a marketing tool by having it be usable as a tag-line.

Moye did not deny that to be successful a college must practice good business strategies, but thought that colleges are much different than companies and that a business slogan-like mission statement was not a good idea. "I think that the committee does not agree with that," Moye said.

Draft four of the proposed new mission statement reads "Lyndon State College prepares every student for personal and professional success through experience-based, high-quality programs in the liberal arts and professional studies." Much shorter than the current mission statement found in the LSC handbook.

"My problem is that it's not specific enough," Moye said. "I don't see how the current mission statement can shape our actual practice." Moye believes that future decisions made by the college will be based on the mission statement and that the proposed new one does not offer enough guidance.

Moye said that when something is composed by a committee, the easiest way to get the members to agree on what it says is to make the words innocuous. To make them innocuous, the best way is to make them vacuous. "It didn't say anything at all," Moye said.

Some of Moye's suggested changes made it into the latest draft of the mission statement. Moye had taken issue with a section that claimed LSC prepared students for graduation, which in the case of transfer students and dropouts, it does not.

Student Senator Tim Lavigne, who sits on the SPC, agreed with Moye's changes but was not in concurrence with his basic view on the statement's length. "I agree that it should be something short and concise so at least you could remember it," Lavigne said.

Metin Yersel, professor of Physics echoed Moye's sentiments about the length and also thought more faculty should be involved. Yersel said that the mission statement is an important document because decisions are made based on it, and currently only about a third of the faculty are putting in their opinion.

Sophomore Beth Card had heard about the new mission statement from a line buried in a mass e-mail. Otherwise, she did not know she had a say in the statement's drafting, nor was she particularly aware of what the current one said. "It's probably not going to reflect anything that matters," Card said.

Tell us: What kind of car do you drive?

By JESSICA MILLHISER
CRITIC STAFF

Karen Murray
Senior
Car: Subaru
"My parents bought it for me when I got my permit; they liked the fact that it had all-wheel drive. I love having all-wheel drive, it makes me feel safer."

Tom Hurd
Junior
Car: Black Honda Civic
"I like that it's black because I wanted to put some graphics on the side. Black is a very versatile color that way; you have a wide variety of options."

Sarah Willey
Junior
Car: Subaru
"My first car was a Subaru so I wanted another one. I like that I haven't had a lot of problems with it. I like the all-wheel drive, the style and how it looks."

Michelle Robert
Senior
Silver Mazda
"I like the color but it gets dirty very quickly. I picked my car more for the SUV and silver is a color that I feel not too many people have."

Most popular model and color on campus

Ford is the number one brand of vehicle on campus with 153 Fords in the lot. Chevy came in second with 127 and Subaru came in third with 105. For color trends, red came in number one with black and silver just about tying for second.

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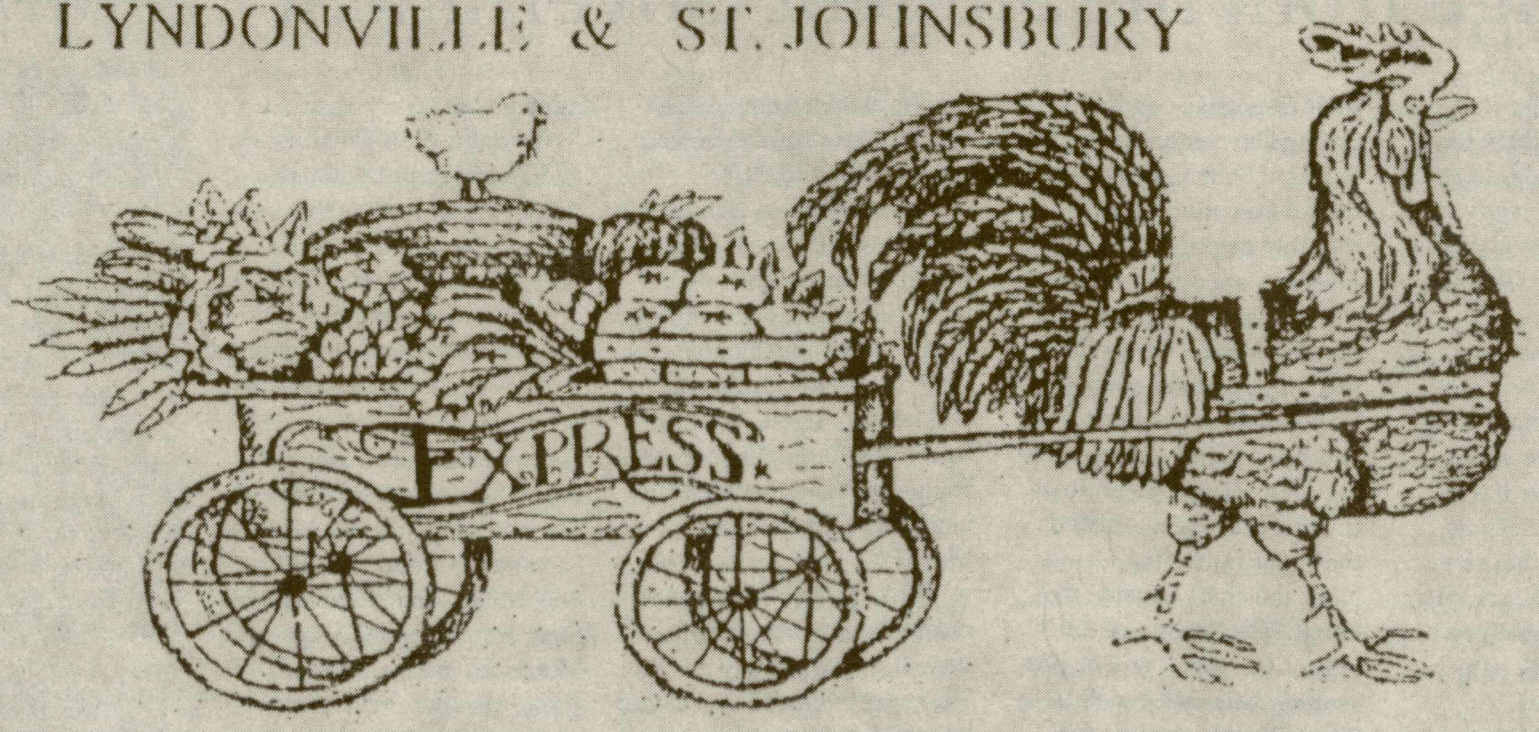

GROCERIES - MEATS - PRODUCE - DELICATESSEN

UVM students deal with off campus living

By CHRISTINA TODD AND STEPHEN HAUSMANN
Cynic Staff

As students enter their third year at UVM, many choose to live off-campus in Burlington's burgeoning student-resident community. While this is not an uncommon decision, it is far from an inexpensive one.

Some students believe the rapidly rising cost of off-campus housing to be capitalistic greed at its most disgusting, but the causes are actually more complex.

Stefan Hermannsson, a UVM senior, lives on North Willard Street, located in the core college area. To combat the price inflation, Hermannsson and his roommates resorted to slightly unorthodox methods.

"One way to get cheap rent in Burlington is to stick extra people in a house, even if it might be illegal," Hermannsson, currently living as the sixth person in a five-bedroom apartment, said. "Over the summer there were seven of us. Rent was really cheap then."

This year's lease ended with troubling news for Hermannsson and company: rent was to increase by 20 percent regardless of who stayed and who left.

For one local landlord, Bob Jean of Green Mountain Rentals, the cost is outrageous and unreasonable.

"It seems [insurance companies] would rather have junkies living in [their property] than college students," Jean said.

With a recent increase in property taxes coupled with high insurance rates, finding a reasonable rental in Burlington is challenging for students. But despite the cost of rent, most landlords still don't have a hard time finding tenants.

"Kids look a lot earlier than they used to," said Eric Hanley, a local landlord of almost 20 years with properties on Orchard Terrace, Bradley Street and North Union Street.

This year, it wasn't uncommon for tenants to sign leases in December. In the past, spring break often marked the starting gate for the apartment search process. But with UVM's student body exploding, competition has likewise grown.

Chuck Perkins, a local landlord with property on Green Street and South Willard Street, has also noticed an increased demand for apartments, especially those in a small band of strategically located property across Burlington.

"Students want to be halfway between the bars and campus - between night life and day life," Perkins said. "These areas always have a higher demand because of location."

Ellie Fallon, a UVM senior, lives with six other girls in a house with four names on the lease. "Over the last year, rent has increased by almost $50 each, but it's still cheap because there are so many of us living there," she said.

Sophomore Resident Assistant Nicole Henderson-Roy had to make a similar decision: live independent from UVM, or rely on more cost effective UVM residence halls?

"It doesn't seem worth it to take out extra loans [to afford off-campus living]," she said. "The free room and board as an RA is a benefit too."

Many companies will not approve insurance policies for buildings that have student tenants, Joanne Gile, the select account executive at Hickock & Boardman Insurance Agency, said.

"College-age students are more of a liability," Gile said. "A tenant could throw a party and a guest could drink too much and fall over a porch railing. There are [also] more claims to destruction of property, such as fists through walls," she said.

Most policies dealing with college-age tenants go with a higher risk, making them more expensive for landlords, Patty Kimball, an insurance agent also at Hickock and Boardman said.

Perkins lives in one of the buildings he also rents out on South Willard Street and can relate to this unattractive image of college students.

"I can hear and see groups of students in the street at 2:30 a.m. being loud and disrespectful to others in the neighborhood," he said.

"Most students are probably not insurance risks, but it becomes a generational issue. The agents working in insurance companies are older; it comes down to different generations and how they choose to live," he said.

While he can relate to the insurance agency's views on the collegiate risk factor, he also can't help but wonder if all this price jacking doesn't amount to age discrimination.

"I think [stigma around college students] is a generalization. I would consider it age discrimination," senior Laura Cohen said.

John Schafer, another senior, agreed.

"Compared to other towns, [rent] is definitely too much. I ... feel discriminated against," he said.

Burlington property taxes have been climbing steadily since the recent reappraisal of properties. Some land values de-creased with the new evaluations, but the majority increased, John Stuart, Burlington's chief accountant, said.

City taxes have increased in the past two years, a raise attributed to funding a retirement system for city employees, he said.

"A lot of it is city greed," Perkins said. The property he owns on South Willard Street was reappraised for double what he bought it for almost five years ago, without any major renovations and all due to a tax and property value increase.

"It seems like as long as there is a need for students to live off campus, rent prices will continue to increase with college students being forced to dig into their pockets to meet the costs," Fiori said.

The situation is fast becoming an unbreakable circle, tied together by the almighty and all-encompassing dollar bill.

Meanwhile, UVM students and their parents continue to throw huge sums of money at their living expenses, unable to break free.

CSC looks to bring mainstream band to campus

By MIKE TRZCIENSKY
Castleton Spartans

If the Student Association Activities Board holds a concert by a well known band, will students be willing to pay for a ticket?

That is one of the burning questions on the table as planning continues for this year's Spring Weekend.

It has been more than a decade since SAAB put on their last large-scale concert featuring Run-D.M.C. An attempt was made last year to bring in popular hip-hop group Nappy Roots, but it never wound up happening due to a combination of SAAB's budget situation and an impossible technical situation.

Last year Andy McQuerrey was elected Vice-President of Activities, the head position on SAAB. McQuerrey immediately made it his goal to get students more involved in events on campus. Original plans were to bring in Blues Traveler, but after their price climbed too high, it was decided to look elsewhere.

After viewing the results of a survey designed to gauge what kinds of bands students would be interested in going to see, focus was officially changed to Guster and their supporting band The Format.

"Guster has an Environmental Sustainability Protection Initiative that makes them an ever more attractive act to bring to Castleton," said McQuerrey, who also stated that the band, which is from Boston, has a major following in this area.

One potential issue in booking Guster, or any other major band that SAAB may consider if things don't work out, is the cost. Guster would cost more than $35,000 to bring in. Also, McQuerrey approximates that it will cost about $8,000 for tech and additional costs to hire security and to rent portable toilets.

According to McQuerrey other bands that were considered, such as O.A.R. and Ziggy Marley with Robert Randolph & The Family Band, would cost twice as much and would be out of their price range.

The current plan is to charge $20 for Castleton students that buy their tickets in advance and $30 for students who choose to buy tickets at the door. The price would be $30 for all non-Castleton students.

"I've thought about the positives and I think we can make money to put back into the Student Association, as well as use the concert as a good recruitment tool for both the SA, and Castleton in general," said McQuerrey.

Another potential problem is where the concert will be held. The current plan for a nice day is to have the concert in the area behind the gym and Castleton Hall that McQuerrey says can hold thousands of people. The plan for a rainy day is to have the concert in the gym, which has notoriously poor acoustics.

But questions persist about whether or not students are familiar enough with the band Guster to be willing to pay that much money to see them.

"The name Guster sounds familiar," said sophomore Matthew Graham. "I think people will be willing to pay $20 to $30 for that group."

Freshman Stacey Lariviere is quite familiar with Guster and said that they are a good band who are played on WEQX a lot, and will definitely bring in a big crowd.

Amongst that crowd may not be sophomore Andrew Barber.

"When I heard that SAAB was thinking of bringing in Guster, I figured I'd check out their music on the Internet, but I didn't like what I heard. I think they should go with another band on their list like Third Eye Blind instead," said Barber.

"I think people on campus will pay, but will complain while doing it, especially since it's an outdoor event and music can be heard for free," said senior Seth Tuper. "In other words, why would I want to pay money to be cramped next to a whole bunch of screaming people when I can just stand back and hear it for free?"

Student Association president Steven Vail backs the idea saying "The last big name band to come to Castleton was ten years ago. If places like the Pickle Barrel and the Pottery Barn can bring big names, why can't we?"

Despite students that say SAAB should go a different way, McQuerrey is determined to try and bring in a band that can reverse SAAB's trend of drawing fewer than ten students to many of their events.

"After nine months of planning, I've found a way to meet those needs and represent our college's mission in a fun and safe festival filled with music from all over Vermont and the Northeast," he said.

Fun Page

Sudoku

				5		1	7	
8					4			3
	9	5	7	3			4	
	6	4	5	8				7
7			4		3			1
3				7	2	9	6	
	8			1	7	4	2	
4			6					8
	7	2		4				

Weekend Forecast

STUDENT METEOROLOGIST: Matt Winchester

The latest forecast for Northeast Vermont including Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans counties.

A low pressure system will continue to move north and east of the area as the night progresses. On Wednesday, high pressure will build in. The high will only stay for a short period of time. This will provide for a few breaks in the clouds. On Thursday, the high presuure will move off the coast and low pressure will move in from the west. Light snow will fall during the afternoon. Snowfall accumulations will be 1 to 3 inches. As the low pressure moves north and east, high pressure will return for the end of the week and into the weekend providing sunny skies. High temperatures this week will be in the 20's.

Today
Low: 8 to 15 F
High: 24 to 31 F
Sunshine and clouds with a few scattered afternoon snow showers. Snowfall accumulations will be less than 1 inch. Northwest wind 5 to 10 mph with gusts to 20 mph.

Tonight
Low: 2-9 F
A few clouds early then increasing clouds late with a calm wind.

Thursday
High: 25 to 32 F
Mostly cloudy with light snow during the afternoon. Snowfall accumulation will be between 1 and 3 inches. South wind 5 to 10 mph.

Thursday Night
Low: 4 to 11 F
Mostly cloudy with a few lingering snow showers. Northwest winds 5 to 10 mph

Horoscopes

Libra (Sept 23-Oct 22) Some people just rock. You unfortunately, haven't been one of them this week. If you wash your clothes with Downy though, I swear you will start to feel cooler.

Scorpio (Oct 23-Nov 21) Brace yourself, the week of pissing everyone off has just begun. It is probably best that you make yourself a little less readily available for anyone who wants a piece.

Sagittarius (Nov 22-Dec 21) It's better to lose a lover than to love a loser. With that said be hot and have fun. Your kiss could make anyone weak in the knees, so perhaps it's time you start your career as a make-out bandit.

Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 19) Don't change a damn thing. You are smokin'. If you have been noticing more heads turning your way, you are right on target. Keep workin' it and you will wind up with many pleasant surprises.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 18) This week is all about bringing sexy back—because yes, you've lost it. Stop being so hard on yourself, we all make fools of ourselves sometimes. Work it.

Pisces (Feb 19-Mar 20) You're a glorified Go-Getta, so this week is all about doing your thing. Who cares if nobody else approves of your contemptible dance moves or your atrocious manners? Deep down you know you got it.

Aries (Mar 21-Apr 19) Love is certainly in the air for you. But if you don't play your cards right you are going to wind up with a nasty infection. Play hard to get once in a damn while, you will reap the benefits.

Taurus (Apr 20-May 20) Saying "That's what she said…" after every sentence is starting to get annoying. You have been acting very strange lately. It is always a good idea to check the carbon monoxide detectors in your house.

Gemini (May 21-Jun 21) A sultry affair you have been having is about to lose its spark. It is now time to pull out all the stops. Nothing says romance like whips, chains and blindfolds.

Cancer (Jun 22-Jul 22) Any type of pants that doesn't have a bum is certainly a no-no this week. Well, this lifetime. Say sayonara to everything that brings you down this week because your life is about to get steamy and delicious.

Leo (Jul 23-Aug 22) Certain hairstyles and outfit choices were so two years ago—look into this. Perhaps you should do some reading aside from school work; your brain is slowly turning into mush. If you're going to have a bad fashion sense… at least you could be smart.

Virgo (Aug 23-Sept 22) Stop following the crowd and be an original. You will thank yourself in years to come when you realize how you stayed true to yourself.

Vacation Word Search

Can you find the words related to things students do over vacation?

X	Q	U	L	D	K	G	U	E	L	F	Y	P	S	O	P	P	N	N
Y	K	Y	Z	Q	L	T	F	L	V	P	V	C	L	O	N	U	I	U
G	P	B	B	E	Z	W	A	I	G	M	Q	J	E	X	O	N	U	O
G	N	I	P	P	O	H	S	N	U	E	R	N	E	O	H	K	K	Q
B	O	V	E	J	U	Q	I	F	R	Y	L	D	P	Y	Q	Z	T	O
K	A	T	I	B	M	K	N	F	U	O	M	W	I	O	I	F	Z	M
F	V	A	W	K	R	W	A	W	T	M	A	T	N	R	R	G	L	A
A	R	H	K	O	K	M	T	X	M	T	A	D	G	M	Y	W	O	N
D	W	I	W	A	I	A	J	G	A	V	S	X	T	X	T	L	P	N
B	F	N	E	L	I	H	Y	G	P	H	W	E	K	R	Z	J	E	N
D	Y	H	Y	N	C	R	M	N	G	D	V	O	C	S	I	X	Y	I
H	H	V	R	U	D	A	E	T	A	L	N	N	J	X	N	P	Q	G
D	E	C	Z	G	G	S	G	A	G	P	N	U	Y	I	V	K	S	H
T	U	B	A	N	E	N	B	N	R	A	F	V	F	O	A	M	R	T
N	I	Q	F	I	V	D	I	C	I	F	U	W	Y	X	S	E	O	S
T	T	G	W	L	K	N	I	K	V	C	G	H	G	G	L	V	V	G
M	N	R	F	B	G	W	N	C	N	D	A	W	R	A	N	W	S	I
I	J	R	J	M	S	P	A	R	T	I	E	S	X	Z	Z	L	T	C
V	E	S	Z	A	G	B	D	Q	T	P	R	I	N	R	A	W	Q	S
T	J	C	N	G	U	C	W	R	I	V	N	D	U	V	L	G	O	J
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D	H	T	R	A	V	E	L	I	N	G	N	X	V	H	E	Y	T	U

DRINKING
FAMILY
FRIENDS
FUN
GAMBLING
LATE NIGHTS
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RELAXING
ROAD TRIPS
SHOPPING
SLEEPING
SUN
TRAVELING
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Send the email to **joshua.gervais@lyndonstate.edu**.
Put "Lyndon Review" in your subject line. If you have some artwork you would like to submit, put it in a folder and place it in Chandler Gilman's door box (Vail 466).

The role institutional advancement plays at LSC

By KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
MANAGING EDITOR

Institutional Advancement, unlike Admissions and Financial Aid, isn't clear in its name on what it does.

The institution in question is LSC and the goal of Institutional Advancement is to advance the institution. The chief way this is accomplished is through money. Institutional Advancement is the department that raises money for the college by asking for donations.

Only about one percent of LSC's money comes through Institutional Advancement. While that's on par with other Vermont State Colleges, it's nothing compared to someplace like Harvard, Bob Whittaker, dean of Institutional Advancement, said.

One of things Institutional Advancement uses to advance the institution are these things called endowments. An endowment is an amount of money given to the college by an individual, a company, or another group for a specific purpose.

That money, $10,000 at its lowest, is then invested in the stock market. That's what keeps it going while a certain percentage is given out of it annually for the endowments intended purpose. Currently, LSC has $1.9 million invested in endowment stocks.

One such endowment was set up by Graham Newel, an LSC alumni and a renowned Vermont historian. The money he gave in an endowment to LSC goes to ensuring a course in Vermont history is taught and paid for every year.

Institutional Advancement has other ways of bringing in money for the school. Straight donations are also looked for. Whittaker's method of getting such monies is to build relationships with alumni and other possible benefactors. Institutional Advancement does not simply call people with money on the phone and ask them for a donation, Whittaker said.

Another large fundraising project is the Capitol Campaign. The actual monetary goal of the campaign hasn't been set, but it will be between $3 million and $10 million. Currently LSC is in the planning phase of the campaign and is working on forming a volunteer steering committee, Whittaker said. Currently there are four people on the committee and the goal is to have six by May.

Whittaker took the position as dean of Institutional Advancement in August of 2005. He had been a fundraiser for the Utah Symphony and Opera. Whittaker wanted to get into education because he felt that our country is in need of educated people. LSC is a college where people who would otherwise not be able to get a college education can go for one, Whittaker said.

Fingerprints now required of all new VSC employees

By DANIELLE SYKES
CRITIC STAFF

A new VSC policy is being enacted with the safety of students in mind, but some are questioning whether these new security measures are needed.

Any employee hired after July 1, 2006 is required to be fingerprinted and have a background check. Resident assistants (RAs) are LSC students, but are considered to be employees and must go through the procedure.

"I don't want a criminal for an RA," said a freshman who asked to remain anonymous, "but one small crime shouldn't disqualify someone."

RA reports have come back clean so far Sandra Franz, director of Human Services said. If it was discovered that an applicant had a record, more investigation would be done before the student was refused altogether.

Everyone who works with vulnerable populations goes through tough security measures Franz said.

"Student teachers are used to this," Franz said. The new policy will also require students working for public safety to be fingerprinted and have background checks.

Employees must pay $15 for fingerprinting and $24 for their information to be analyzed, but those with annual incomes that are less than $25,000 are reimbursed by the school.

"It's too strict," said senior Dan Valente about the fingerprinting policy. He said nothing would be found on his record, but the process would discourage him from applying anyway.

"They can give everyone a fair chance," said Valente. Once a student becomes an RA, getting into the slightest bit of trouble means losing the job, he said.

"We're making sure there's no risk to the [LSC] community," Jonathan Davis, director of Student Life said.

Teachers hired before the policy was put into place are exempt, so for the time being more is known about the backgrounds of RAs than professors, Davis said.

"There are a lot of risks out there," Davis said, but "students on campus are very safe."

Café de la Pensée asks "Do we need GEU's?"

By SARAH DONAGHY
CRITIC STAFF

On Friday, February 9 the Office of Student Life and the LSC Philosophy Club held another meeting of what LSC calls "Café de la Pensée," French for "café of thought". The topic that they hoped to discuss was the importance, or lack or importance, of the general education units that students take here at LSC.

That was what was supposed to happen but, although the announcement was sent out to everyone at LSC via email, even promising free coffee to those who showed up, only six people met in the Samuel Read Hall Library.

Of the six people, three were students and three were faculty. All spoke fairly candidly about what they felt might be wrong with how things are run at the college. Among the things noted was the idea that the bar may be placed too low for most students when it came to GEUs, the thought that college admissions may be to lenient with the need to keep college finances up, that students who want their degree may not care enough about the education they are getting, and that perhaps the core courses need to be more tailor made to each students needs.

"I am actually a very big advocate for making [GEUs] major specific," Jonathan Flom the Assistant Professor of Theatre at LSC and one of the attendees of the Café de la Pensée said. He also cited his experience in college where they were asked to pick two choice studies in each of the areas instead of taking one choice and one GEU as students do at LSC.

The topic was hard to pin down among the other issues that the group felt ought to be addressed. Those present had issues with how the college was presenting itself as well as what it was doing for the students.

"It comes up at faculty meetings all the time, are we a [vocational/ technical college] or are we a liberal arts college?" Flom said.

Much is in flux at the college that could affect students' futures and the path and effectiveness of their education but few students are taking the opportunities that are given to them to voice their opinions.

Portner Prize applications due March 1

The Portner Prize is offered to Juniors and Seniors and will include a cash award that can be used as the student chooses.

To be considered for the prize, students will: submit a cover letter summarizing their involvement in the Arts; prepare a brief explanation of why the Fine & Performing Arts are important to self, community, curriculum, etc.; include a resume, portfolio or DVD, CD, etc., of their work.

The cover letter and additional materials should be sent as an attachment to Patricia Webster at patricia.webster@lsc.vsc.edu.. The deadline is March 1.

Brad Durr eclipses 1,000 point mark in win over JSC

By JAKE MARDIN
Critic Staff

Junior Brad Durr scored 24 points against Johnson State College last Tuesday to put him over the 1,000 point mark for his career. He also pulled down ten rebounds as LSC defeated the Badgers 93-84.

Durr needed only 13 points to reach 1,000, and he reached that mark early in the second half. "It's a great feat considering he's only a junior," Coach Randy Rathburn said. Rathburn also said that during break he told Durr to shoot more when he was in the post because he is hard to be stopped when he is one-on-one. He also credited Durr with being one of the reasons for the Hornet's second-half turnaround. At one point, LSC was 2-9, but since then they have gone 7-3 to improve to 9-12.

Rathburn called the game against Johnson State a "very, very intense game." The Badgers are LSC's biggest rival, and only playing one game against them this season made the game even more important.

Along with Durr, who recorded his ninth double-double this season, sophomore Kali Stoddard-Imari had a big game, scoring 20 points and grabbing 15 rebounds. Stoddard-Imari has had a double-double in 12 games this season, more than half of the games played all season.

In women's action, the Lady Hornet's were defeated by Johnson State 80-53, but rebounded for a win against Green Mountain College on Sunday. Sophomore Jackie Wetzel led the team in scoring with 16 points, while sophomore Jennifer White recorded a double-double with ten points and 13 rebounds.

The next game for both teams will be in Concord, NH against New Hampshire Technical Institute on Wednesday night. The last time the men's team faced off against NHTI, the Hornets won with a last second shot by Michael Paul.

Campus community now offered personal trainers

By JORDAN ROYER
Critic Staff

Sweat dripped from his brow as he lunged outward with dumbbells in his hand. Overlooking is Adrian Guyer, shouting words of encouragement. Guyer is this student's personal trainer and he could be yours as well.

Four students, under the direction of Professor Anthony Sgherza, the head of Exercise Science at Lyndon State, have begun a personal training program in the weight room on campus.

The students are making their knowledge and services open to all students, faculty and staff of the college as well as the community. The program was developed as the students' practicum, in hopes to establish a service at the school that will benefit the campus and community.

The four students are, R.J. Brown, Adrian Guyer, Justin Brittell and John Shanks. Each of the students is working towards a Certified Personal Training (CPT) licensure.

Lyndon State College is now a member of the National Strength and Conditioning Association [NSCA] and the students feel that it is time to develop the schools fitness opportunities.

Each of the four students share a desire in promoting physical fitness, but for Adrian Guyer, a senior Exercise Science major, there are more benefits to this program.

"I am looking to gain experience working with the general public. A majority of my past experience has been with athletes, so this is a great opportunity to work with a wide range of people." Guyer also hopes that the program will, "increase the demand for better facilities at LSC."

The instructors will focus on the 5 components of fitness while working with clients. The five components are muscular strength, muscular endurance, flexibility, cardio vascular endurance and body composition.

R.J Brown, one of the primary trainers explained the idea behind the service is to, "provide on campus health fitness instruction, as well as strength and conditioning, free of charge." Brown also wants everyone to know that students and staff should feel free to ask questions while they are in the fitness facilities.

Anyone interested in receiving fitness assistance should inquire within the weight room. There is a schedule posted with each trainer's times of availability, so stop in and get yourself in shape.

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Hornet News

By JAKE MARDIN AND ANDREW R. KOCH
Critic Staff

Both the men's and women's basketball teams went 1-1 in their games this past week. In the games played on Tuesday, the men came away with a 93-84 victory over Johnson State College while the Lady Hornets fell to Johnson 80-53.

Last Thursday, the men's team was defeated by Castleton State College 90-83 in Castleton. The team still had standout performances, including a huge game from junior Brad Durr, who had 28 points and 17 rebounds. Sophomore Kali Stoddard-Imari also added a double-double.

The Lady Hornets faced off against Saint Joseph's College of Brooklyn in Lyndonville and won, 69-46. Freshman Kristin Petell led the way with 19 points, with 15 of them coming from behind the three point line. Sophomore Elizabeth Hall chipped in 18 points to go along with 6 assists, while sophomore Jackie Wetzel had 13 points.

The Lady Hornets improved to 16-4 after a 61-53 win at home over Green Mountain College on Sunday. This week, the men's team (9-12) and the women's team will travel to Concord, N.H. to take on New Hampshire Technical Institute on Wednesday.

The Lady Hornets, ranked sixth in the nation, have earned a bid to the USCAA National Tournament, which begins on March 7 at Rhema Bible College in Broken Arrow, Okla.

For the second week in a row, a Hornet men's player has won the USCAA Men's Division I Player of the Week award.

After senior captain Brent Fowler took home the award for the week ending Feb. 7, junior center Brad Durr, who has been called a "double-double machine" for the Hornets, is this week's winner for the week ending Feb. 14

In Lyndon's Feb. 8 game at Castleton, Durr scored 28 points and grabbed 17 boards in defeat. Durr followed that up by scoring 24 points (including his 1,000th career point) and pulling down 10 rebounds in a Feb. 13 win at Johnson State. Kali Stoddard-Imari also had strong games against Castleton and Johnson, racking up double-doubles for himself in both games as well.(see above stories).

Jackie Wetzel's 16 points led all scorers on Sunday. The Lady Hornets won despite playing without junior forward and co-captain Whitney Hoyt, who is out battling mononucleosis.

After today's games at New Hampshire Tech., the teams will travel to upstate New York over the winter break for their regular-season finales at Morrisville State College.

Rugby team prepares for Snow Bowl in March

By STEVE SHANNON
Special to the Critic

Less then one month after coming back from suspension, LSC Rugby was back in competition Saturday at the Colby-Sawyer indoors sevens tournament.

Under new coach Rhet Amos, both men's and women's teams began practicing the first week back from semester break and began sharpening skills and getting into shape.

The tournament required teams to play three 14 minute games in the preliminary round and a play-off game. The name sevens is due to the seven minute halves and the seven players on the field instead of the usual 15. Both teams played well, especially the men's team, who took second in the day-long tournament. Sophomore forward Eric Sevelovitz scored his first competition points touching down three tries over four games, afterward saying "I'm looking forward to playing in the Snow Bowl and I think our team is going to do awesome this spring".

Both men's and women's teams will be participating in several tournaments and exhibition matches this spring, the next of which is the Snow Bowl, hosted by LSC on March 24.

The club invites all members of the LSC community to come watch and cheer as over 12 teams from all over New England compete in the first outdoor competition of the year.

The Critic

Serving the student voice of the Northeast Kingdom

Lyndonville, Vermont | Friday, March 9, 2007 | Volume 53, Number 14

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WWLR officially hits the Internet

After months of planning and preparation, the station makes its mark online

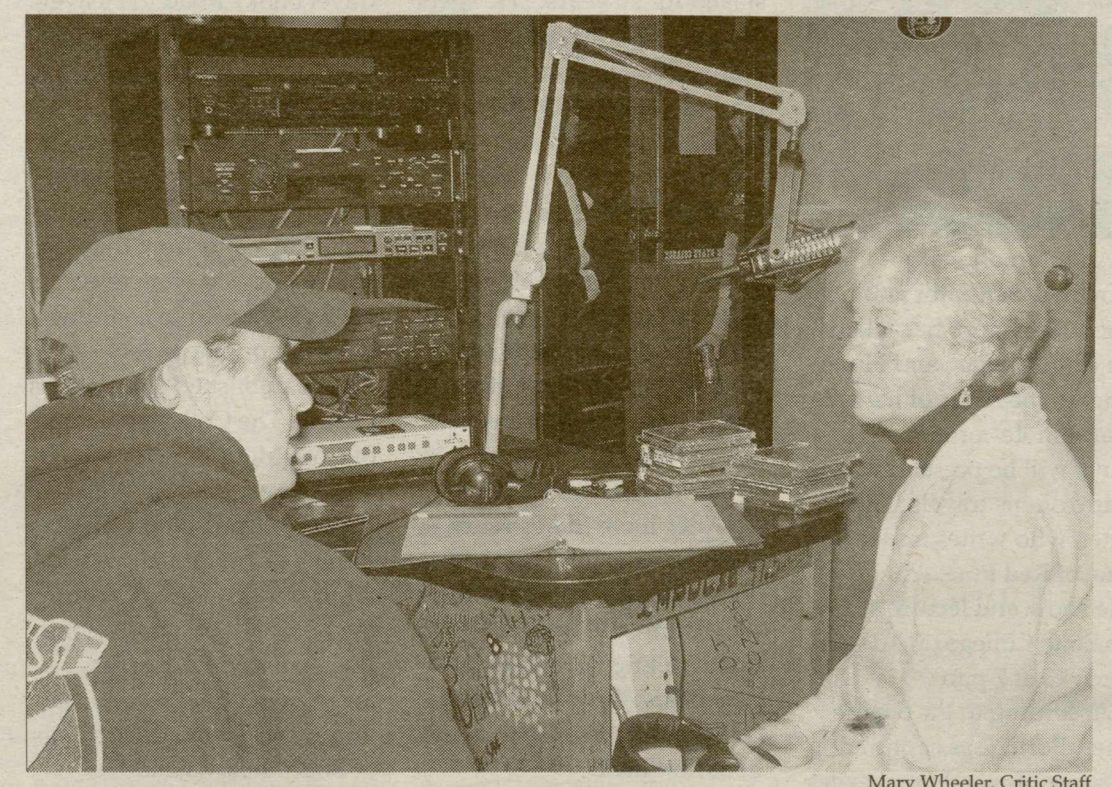
By MARY WHEELER
Editor

A concept that began 16 months ago concluded on Tuesday March 6, when members of the Lyndon State College radio station WWLR, Information Technology and administration gathered in the station to begin streaming. As of 1:30 p.m., WWLR became global and all shows can now be heard at www.lyndonstate.edu/wwlr.

"This is an exciting occasion now that the station is streaming. The students and members of I.T have worked really hard to make this happen." LSC President Carol Moore on air.

"This is an exciting occasion now that the station is streaming," LSC President Carol Moore said during an on air announcement. "It will bring music to many more listeners. The students and members of I.T have worked really hard to make this happen. Good luck with streaming and I know everyone will enjoy listening."

The station recently wired the first floor of Vail to obtain Internet access, an essential component for the streaming, paid for through the clubs underwriting funds.



Mary Wheeler, Critic Staff

Jeremy Lacey, general manager and President Carol Moore officially announced the station's streaming on March 6 with club members, administration and Information Technology staff in attendance.

Streaming brought several changes to the station including an upgrade in their transmitter, the purchasing of a high-end computer server for the streaming, and a top of the line run automation program.

Streaming also resulted in extra work for the directors of the station, as they had to learn the various programs as well as the legal aspects to streaming.

"It's an incredible feeling to have worked 16 months on this and to be finished," Jeremy Lacey, general manager said. "All the directors and DJ's contributed to the success of the station, and the pride the community and administration has for the station is amazing."

Through the website, members of the club can now see how many people visit the site per day, as well as how long a person listens to each show, which will help the station know their demographics.

One of the challenges that the station faces is monitoring the shows. While this is already occurring, the directors will still need to make sure that all DJ's and their programs content abide by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) guidelines, Lacey said.

Every DJ at the station is trained before going on air and there were no public complaints this year of any shows materials, Lacey said.

Club budgets get diced during SGA House meeting

By CALEB BYERLY
Critic Staff

In the world of student government politics, the price of success is high. The price of unpopularity is even higher.

During the budgeting meeting held by Lyndon State College's House of Representatives Wednesday evening, two clubs experienced this first-hand.

Lyndon State College's radio station, WWLR, came to the budgeting meeting looking to receive nearly $13,000 from the student activities fees, which fund all the clubs on campus. Half of this total was to be used to fund the technical requirements that come from maintaining a radio station. The other half would fund a trip to the Bonnaroo Music Festival and a trip to the NAB Convention.

WWLR received some tough words from the representatives because of the club's large success in fundraising. Last year, WWLR brought in more than $10,000 in underwriting funds, a number that greatly exceeded any other club's fundraising income. This number led to an interrogation-style questioning session.

"We weren't sure where all the underwriting money was going." Hockey club president Kerrin Wilmarth said.

After the questioning was over, representatives had proposals of their own for WWLR.

"You're basically a small business." SPJ representative, Kenny Donnelly said. He suggested the radio station should stop asking for money from house, citing the enormous success coming from underwriting fees.

While the radio station's budget did not lose much from the second phase of the budgeting process, the Dance club was under much closer scrutiny from the House representatives. Some representatives were very eager to get their points heard, and when one point was made to cut a particular area of the club's proposal, some celebratory fist pumping could be seen among a few representatives.

The Dance club came to the budget meeting expecting to be disappointed.

"Our budget gets mutilated year after year by House." Jessica Millhiser, the Dance club's treasurer, said.

Coming to the meeting with a proposed budget of $29,935 for the upcoming school year, the Dance team anticipated more than half that cut by the end of the night.

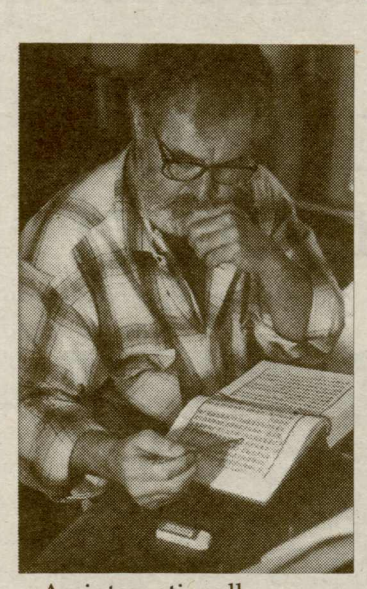
"House hates us." Jessica Millhiser said.

When the dust cleared, seven cuts had been voted on and approved, slashing the Dance club's proposed budget by nearly $16,000, including the removal of one competition, a practice bar, and food expenses for other trips.

"Their proposal was inaccurate." Kerrin Wilmarth said. "When you come asking for that much money, you need to have hard numbers."

Another budget meeting will be held next Wednesday, where clubs will further cut any unnecessary money from their proposals in an attempt to reach a "magic number". The Executive Board Treasurer Steve Merrill holds this number secretly until the sum of all the clubs proposals is within 10% of that number, ending the budgeting process.

Porter, renowned translator and author to visit LSC



An internationally renowned translator and author, whose work has taken him from Taiwan, and Hong Kong, to the caves of hermits in far remote corners of China, will be presenting a lecture on his travels. Bill Porter, who writes under the name of Red Pine, will give a slide show and lecture at Lyndon State College on Tuesday, March 13 at 7 p.m.

According to the Seattle Times, Porter has captured the work of wanderers, exiles and monks with his precise and accessible translations of Chinese poetry. Jim Harrison, author of "Legends of the Fall" and other novels, said Porter's unusual life has given him a rare understanding. "When you have somebody that lives their work," he said, "there's an emotional credibility that seeps through the lines.

After dropping out of graduate school at Columbia University in 1972 Porter bought a one-way ticket to Taiwan. "I was just following my nose," he said. "I left and stayed for 20 years." He spent several years in a Buddhist monastery, meditating and reading classical Chinese texts. After leaving the monastery he spent over a decade working on a farm near Taipei. He supported himself by teaching English and working as a journalist at English-language radio stations in Taiwan and Hong Kong, where he produced over a thousand programs about his travels in China.

After more than twenty years in Asia, he returned to the US in 1993 in order for his two children to become more fluent in English and the American Way and so "that I could experience credit card debt first-hand."

Writer Gretel Ehrlich believes that Porter's unique life accounts for why his work is so accessible to everyone. "There are no other translators around who have had that experience" she said. "It adds such a depth to his work. You feel as if he's talking about the block down the street."

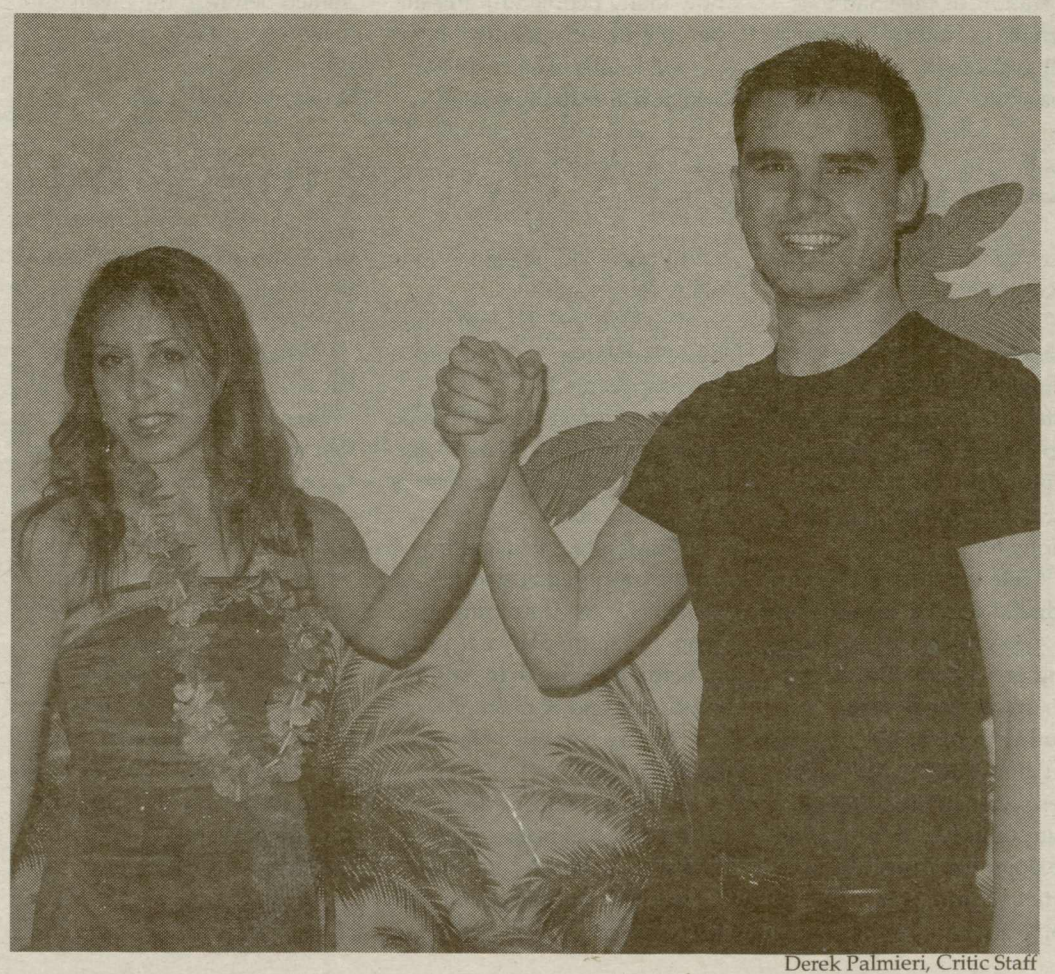
"I translate just like a ball player plays ball," Porter told the Seattle Times. "I look at it as fun and a performance and I feel physically involved with it when I do it."

Porter met more than 100 hermits while researching his travel book "Road to Heaven: Encounters with Chinese Hermits." One site he visited was near a modern nuclear weapons plant. He and a photographer were arrested by Chinese soldiers, but after three days in prison, they paid a fine and were released. He was allowed to continue his work on the project.

His published translations include The Collected Songs of Cold Mountain, for which he was awarded the WESTAF Award in Translation, The Zen Works of Stonehouse (Shih-wu), Guide to Capturing a Plum Blossom by Sung Po-jen, for which he was awarded a PEN West translation prize, The Zen Teachings of Bodhidharma and Lao-tzu's Taoteching. He currently lives in Port Townsend, Washington.

The lecture, which is sponsored by the Department of English and Philosophy will be in room LAC 413. The room is located just down the hall from the Burke Mountain Room.

Campus Snapshot



Derek Palmieri, Critic Staff

Chris Kellogg and Bonnie Paris of the team "Club Rock N' Rotanact" prepare for a dance during Campus Activities Board Winter Week.

Academic support helps students with midterms

By SARAH DONAGHY
CRITIC STAFF

Midterms begin March 12 and many students may be feeling the crunch. The Academic Support Center is open to help with everything from test anxiety to note taking and study skills.

"Whether homework is collected or not you should do it. And don't wait until the last minute, you know, start homework the day it's assigned, not the day it's due,"

Julie Theoret, math professor said.

"It's helpful to start early with a tutor," Angela Ryan-Williams, Project Excel Councilor said. "Sometimes it takes several weeks to find a tutor [for the subject you need]."

Any student can stop by the ASC, located in third floor of Vail, for tutelage. The Writing Center can provide help for editing papers as well as the occasional math tutor. They also provide study sessions for several other subjects, known as Content Area Tutors, which are posted on a time table located to the left of the Writing Center door.

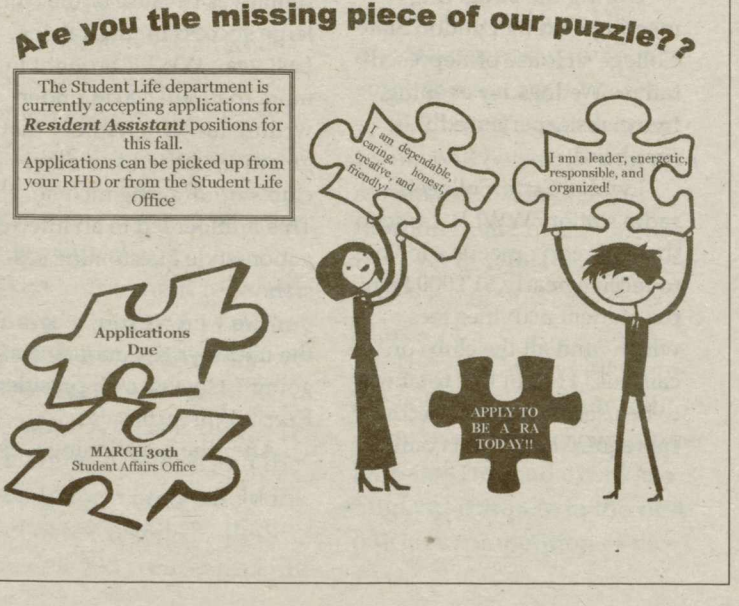
For math tutelage there is the Math Resource Room, located in Vail 450, which has two tutors available whenever it is open. Julie Theoret, who runs the Math Resource Room, suggests thumbing through the textbooks for extra practice problems and working through them with the tutors on duty.

"Consistent work is important," Theoret said. "Whether homework is collected or not you should do it. And don't wait until the last minute, you know, start homework the day it's assigned, not the day it's due."

Theoret also stressed the need to speak to the teachers one-on-one about the problems students may have in their classes. Everyone learns differently and at their own pace and she feels that students will have more success is they are able to approach their teachers and ask to have something re-explained or presented in a different way.

Mary Etter, the Learning Specialist for Project Excel, encourages students to use the resources that the school provides throughout the school year. She feels that too often students continue to use the study habits that worked for them in elementary and high school even though they do not work in their college studies.

Asking for help early was something that all the learning specialists seemed to agree helped students to keep their grades up. Ryan-Williams emphasized getting together with a tutor early in the semester to work on subjects that are expected to be difficult. "Everyone is perfectly fine if you start with a tutor and decide to end the sessions," Etter said.



Moments Like This: A Season to Remember

By TRISH PENNYPACKER
CRITIC COLUMNIST

I think that out of all the seasons, I will miss my father the most during sugaring.

From late February until April, my father consumed himself in the sugaring, often basing his confidence on the richness of the syrup he produced.

To him, sugaring was an art; a skill to be mastered, but only by those who were capable of surrendering themselves to long hours, unpredictable weather patterns, and a changing economy.

This will be the first year that my father will not be tending the smooth, steel arch in the sugar house that my grandfather built decades ago.

There will be no wisps of gray steam floating from the chimney stack, no crackling of embers beneath the massive steal, no jugs of syrup lined on rustic countertops, no hot raised doughnuts to dunk blissfully into white foam cups of hot maple syrup, and inside the beloved sugar shack, no family will gather. I will miss watching my father's rugged and calloused hands feed splintered slabs of wood into a hot and hungry mouth of flames, as he tells me to pull up a stool and sit for a while.

Instead, my father's crooked wooden stool will sit empty, steam will not fog the dusty window panes, and the cement floors, hosed down after the rush of last year's sugar-season, will remain untracked and mud-free. There will be no coming of neighbor's to taste the golden syrup and chat about the weather and politics and local gossip, no late nights spent watching the orange glow from the chimney light up the night sky.

This year, some of the tall, grand maples will be tapped, but most of the sugar woods will remain untouched. The sap will be trucked to another sugar shack, where my brother will learn how to boil (perhaps some year, not too far from now, he will be able to boil on his own, reviving the family business).

It will be difficult to see someone else boiling the sap from our sugar woods on a foreign arch, reading someone else's name stamped onto the gilded labels on the bottom of the maple syrup containers, and watching someone else smile with pride as he holds jars of amber sweetness up to the light to determine the grade.

My family and I will probably help with the tapping and the gathering, riding behind the rusty yellow bulldozer as we make our way through the sugar grove, pounding taps and hanging buckets.

We used to love the way my dad would grin as he drove the bulldozer over ruts and stumpage, bouncing us along as though we were ragdolls. "Hold on tight," he would holler. "Don't let the bumps knock you off." And when the holding tank was full of sap, the ride back was not much smoother. The sap would slosh over the rim, leaving nothing but a slick, cold metal tank to hold onto. Our fingers would freeze from the wetness, but Dad would somehow manage to lighten our discomfort.

Although we are aware that it will never seem the

same without my father riding shotgun on the dozer, and laughing at us later as we are sickened by overindulging in syrup and pickles, we also feel that it would be unbearable to discontinue a tradition so long in the making. By keeping sugaring alive, we are in a sense, keeping my father's spirit alive.

I hope to hear Dad's echo as we hang the silver buckets throughout the woods. I hope the busyness of the season, distracts us from our longing, and when the peep-frogs begin their chorus as the maples don their red buds, and the robins reappear, bobbing through the maple groves in search of earthworms, that we are on our way to accepting dad's absence for what it is; and realize that he left us in body alone.

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A day in the life of public safety director George Hacking

By CALEB BYERLY
CRITIC STAFF

Nestled away in the corner of the T.N. Vail building, in a quiet office alive with the monotonous buzz of fluorescent lighting and electronic equipment, the Lyndon State College Public Safety Director, George Hacking shuffles through some administrative paperwork.

> *""When push comes to shove, and I need someone to step up, someone usually does." Hacking said.*

His mahogany and steel desks are arranged in an L-shape and covered with assorted papers, a computer, and a large rolodex. Family photos give the office a homey feeling, like stepping into a man's study, although the concrete brick walls shatter any feelings of home.

Hacking is responsible for the records of all the students who park their vehicles on campus, as well as the administration and visitors. They are issued stickers which give them permission to park in the campus lots. A window overlooking the T.N. Vail parking lot allows him to roughly determine the current parking status of the college.

After having lunch, Hacking sat down with me to discuss not only his role as Public Safety Director, but also his thoughts on the Iraq war, plans for spring break, his student staff, and students who admit their guilt, yet argue their innocence anyway.

"I was thinking about Cancun for Spring Break." Hacking said, the Mexican sun already shining in his eyes. "I have two sons, and I think they would enjoy it as well."

Mexico is pricey for a family of four though, and it came down to matter of do or don't in Hacking's mind.

"It's one of those things where, you just gotta bite the bullet and go." Hacking said.

Hacking also praised his student staff for making what could be a hectic job very manageable. He mentioned time when he needed help from students, and how available and ready they were to help.

"When push comes to shove, and I need someone to step up, someone usually does." Hacking said.

Stepping into his office, one would assume Hacking would be a hardened detective like Dick Tracey, working on a mysterious college caper like The Case of the Diarhetic Aramark Food. However, Hacking is as pleasant and as welcoming as they come in terms of college administrators. After punching some numbers into his computer, apparently for a spreadsheet of student's work hours, Hacking describes a typical day of work.

"I usually come in and get updates from the night officer, and get acquainted with anything that happened the night before." Hacking said. "Then I'll take care of any administrative paperwork, and whatever meetings I have scheduled for that day."

Hacking described a parking incident he had to deal with after the large snowstorm covered the college campus with nearly 90 feet of snow.

"A student called and said people had made three rows of parking around her car, blocking her in." Hacking said. "So I got the license plate numbers for both of the cars that were blocking her in, and called the owners. Luckily, one of them was home to move their cars, otherwise we would have had to tow the one that happened to be parked illegally."

After a few hours of professional 'hanging out', Hacking had a meeting to attend, and I had a class to get to. We shook hands and I thanked him for his cooperation and taking the time to give us insight into a typical day in the life of the Public Safety Director at Lyndon State College.

Keith Whitcomb Jr, Critic Staff

Public Safety Director, George Hacking, spends hours a day ensuring the safety of students and staff at LSC.

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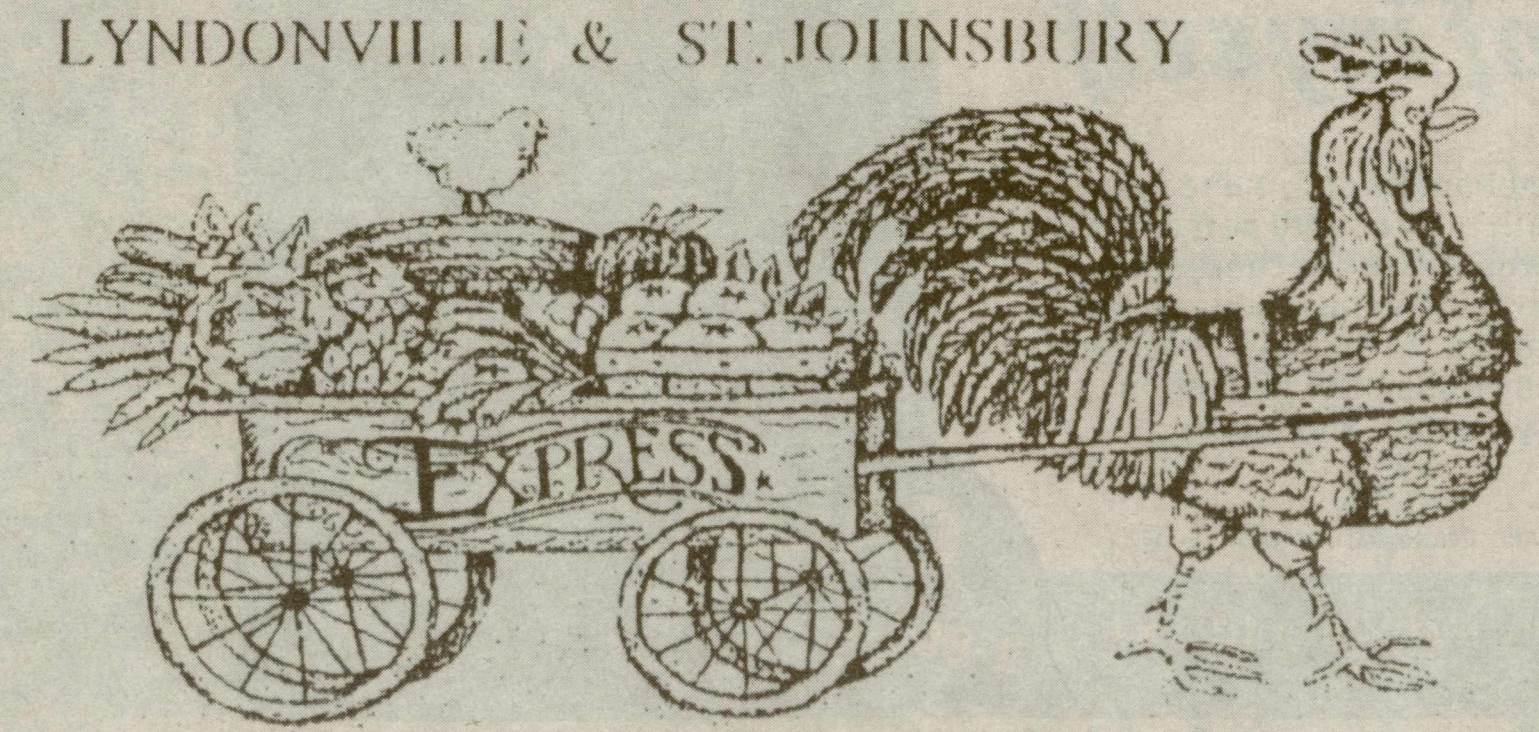


GROCERIES - MEATS - PRODUCE - DELICATESSEN

"Doc" Farrell, a court regular and makes good beef jerky

By JESSICA MILLHISER
CRITIC STAFF

Kevin Farrell, or "Doc", as he likes to be called by his students, pointed his finger towards the hills seen out of his office window and said, "I'm here everyday early enough to watch the sun rise right over there."

I sat in his office, looking around at all of the sports news clippings and the three basketballs that sat atop one of his many bookcases filled with math books. I noticed the box of Wheaties signed by Larry Bird hidden in between two of his bookcases, the muddled papers on the floor, the bags of cinnamon buns a student had brought to him earlier in the week, and the bag of potatoes from his own garden that he was trading for the buns.

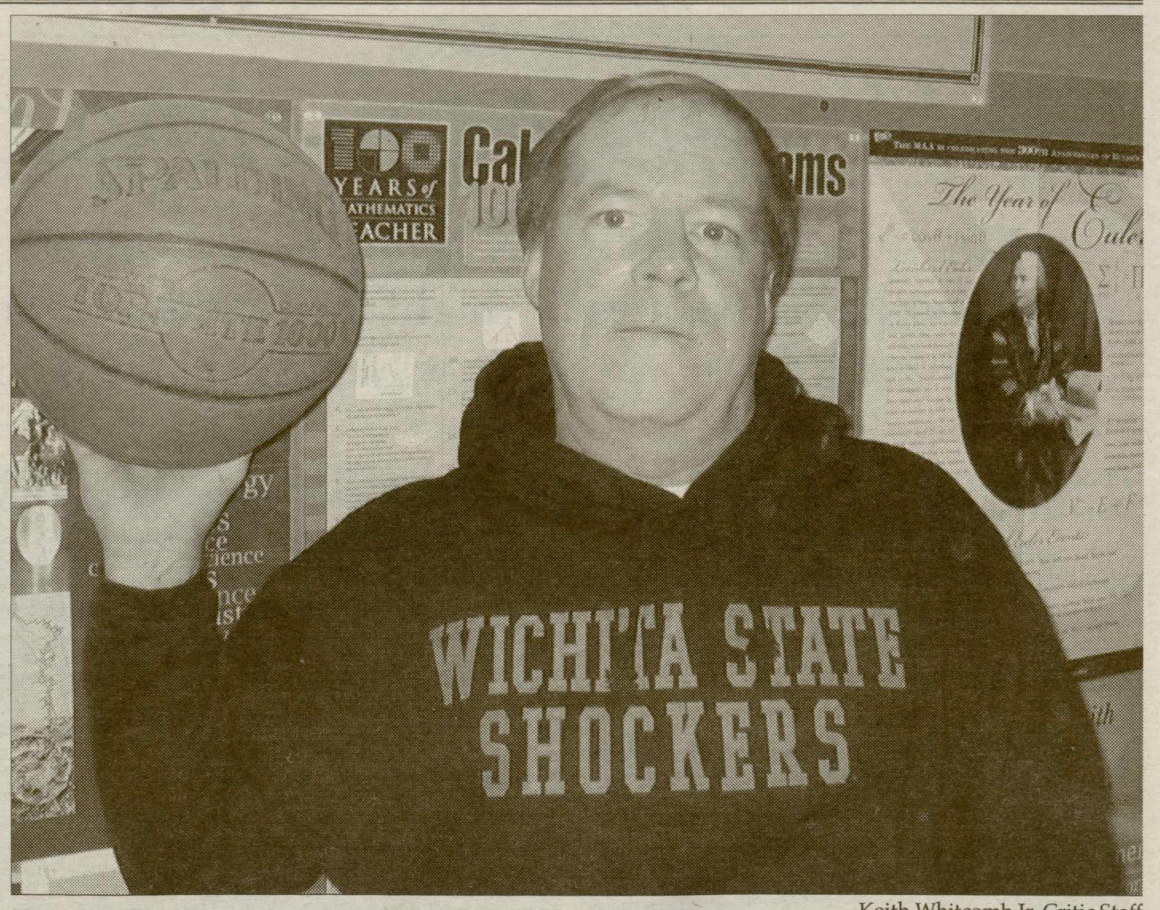
"I like to give students some of the vegetables I grow," Farrell said when asked about the bag of potatoes. "I like to garden and I like to give a lot away."

He sat at his computer, trading e-mails with a former student. "Heather and I trade e-mails a lot. Sometimes I'll e-mail her and she'll e-mail me back in like five minutes. Those are the days when she doesn't have a lot of work to do. I'll tell her you're here."

Before we left his office, he held up a bag, "Jerky?" he asked, "I made it myself." I took some, "You make beef jerky too? What don't you do?" I said. He laughed. "I've been making beef jerky for about 10 years, but I used to only do it once a year. But for the past couple years I've been doing it every month or so. The kids around here seem to like it so I bring it in for them. I don't keep a whole lot for myself."

It took him at least 15 minutes to get from his office in Vail to the gym where he plays basketball because he stopped so many times along with way to chat with students. "I like to talk with the kids," Farrell said.

"I'm done teaching everyday at 1:30. Then I come back to my office and wait for students to come chat for a while and head to play basketball around two or three. There are always people in the gym waiting to play pickup."



Keith Whitcomb Jr, Critic Staff
Math professor Kevin Farrell shows off his love for basketball outside his office in Vail.

We reached the gym and there were already five or six guys shooting the ball around waiting for people to arrive. They shot free throws to determine teams and began to play. "Doc's got the shot tonight," I caught one of them saying as Farrell made a couple three point shots in a row.

Throughout the games, Farrell gave lots of positive encouragement to all the boys that were playing. "Good shot", "Nice pass", "Take it! Take it!" During the period that he played, students came and went and games started and finished.

He came over, dripping with sweat and sat down next to me, pausing for a minute to rest. "I play much better half court. It's much more of a shooters game this way, more screens and picks and passes. When it's full court its more about who's the best player. Half court is much more team play," he said, "You caught me on a good day."

Local resident, Julia Norton, cares for seven-year-old autistic child

By DANIELLE SYKES
CRITIC STAFF

A college education can further knowledge about many topics, but caring, patience and a good work ethic are not always learned in the classroom.

Julia Norton is a 22-year-old who is content with her decision to not pursue a college education.

"I had no tolerance for high school," she says. Julia laughs as she recalls her most recent jobs; cleaning houses, taking care of an elderly man, and spending every afternoon with a seven-year-old boy who has autism.

Julia picks Adrien up at 1:00 every day after school and watches him until 4:30 when his mother gets home from work.

"Adrien, did you eat anything for lunch today?" she asks. Julia sighs in frustration as he mutters one syllable answers that resemble nothing close to real words. She spends the duration of the five minute ride trying to decipher his responses until they arrive at home and she looks through his lunchbox.

"He's really particular about food," Julia says, "He eats only plain things and a lot of the same stuff."

She asks him if he wants ketchup with his chicken nuggets, to which he replies, "cupcup". Adrien points to exactly where he wants the ketchup squirted. Everything has to be very organized and exactly how he wants it, otherwise he gets upset, Julia says.

"Adrien, please use your fork," she says. His head drops as he picks up the fork and violently stabs a chicken nugget.

Adrien's body begins to shake as he slowly lifts the fork to his mouth.

"He shakes like that when he's doing something against his own will," Julia says. She asks him what he wants to drink.

"Olk" is his response, so she pours him a glass of milk.

Adrien drops his fork suddenly and lowers himself off the chair. He starts to frantically fidget and point for no noticeable reason.

"Oh, you want your pants rolled, don't you," says Julia. He nods yes.

Adrien has to take off his socks and roll his pant legs to his knees usually as soon as they get inside, says Julia.

Julia has been watching over Adrien since last summer and laughs as she finds herself explaining his strange rituals, because she has become accustomed to them.

"I just need to get out before I get attached," says Julia when asked if she likes her job.

Adrien plays quietly on his rocking horse and stares at a far off point for a couple of minutes. Julia says she enjoys these quiet moments, because he has violent fits a few times a week.

Even then she says he's cute because sometimes he'll point his hand like Spiderman does when he releases his web. Adrien's favorite character is one he calls "iman".

Adrien stops rocking and begins to mumble short, choppy words that are difficult to make out completely.

"You're counting," whispers Julia, trying not to interrupt his train of thought. He points at the clock on the wall and continues to speak. A more distinguished 10, 11 and 12 are heard and he stops as suddenly as he started.

"Great job!" says Julia with a level of excitement that seemed disproportional to the feat at hand.

"He can count to 15 now," she says with brightened eyes.

Julia is in charge of transporting Adrien to his speech therapy sessions a couple times a week. Fifteen minutes before they actually leave, she has to start working on him to get ready.

"That's the house Emerson lived in," says Julia during the drive. Julia took care of Emerson for months before he passed away last summer.

"I miss that job," she says, "there's someone there who can actually say, 'I appreciate what you do.'"

Adrien pounds on the handicapped button that opens the hospital doors. He races through the doorway and straight down the hall into an office.

"We're here," says Julia as she tries to catch her breath. Adrien whips off his jacket, hat and boots and starts to roll up his pants.

After sitting in the waiting room through half of Adrien's appointment, Julia escapes to her car for a cigarette.

"I hate to leave him in there, being how he is," says Julia as she puts out her half-smoked cigarette. She rushes back inside to wait.

When Adrien's appointment is through, Julia helps him roll his pant legs down and zip his coat.

A mother with two young boys enters the waiting room just as Julia and Adrien are about to leave.

"Hi Adrien," says one of them. Julia encourages Adrien to respond, but he shows his lack of interest by bowing his head.

"Hi Adrien, hi," the boy says again. Adrien lifts one hand matter-of-factly giving his own sort of welcome, free of words or emotion. He leaves the room.

"Good job," Julia says, congratulating him on his attempt at being social.

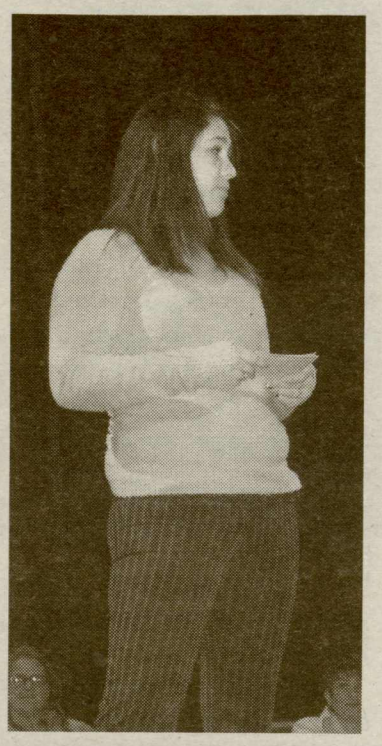
"Hey, all my buddies clap their hands," she says. Adrien turns around to face her and begins to clap his hands excitedly and smile.

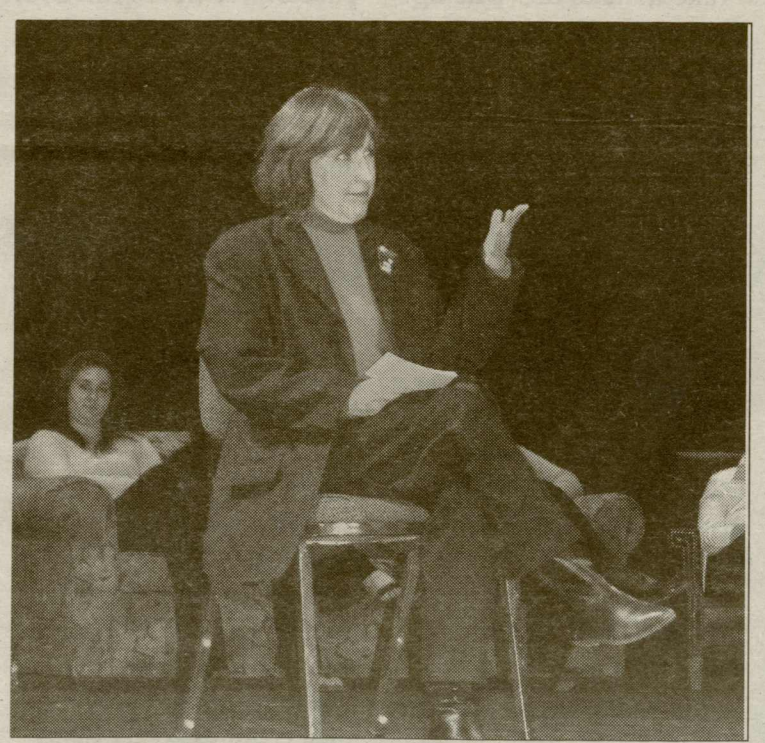
Vagina Monologues visit LSC

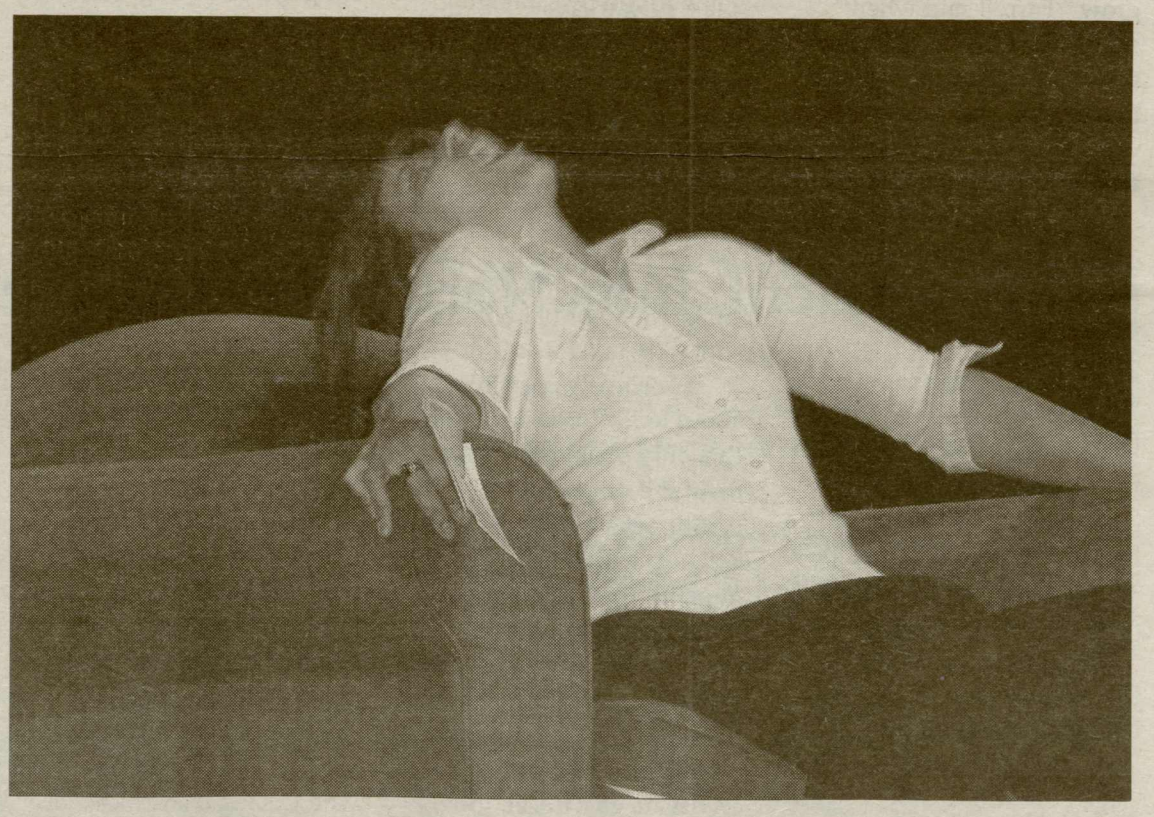
LSC students, faculty and community members performed Eve Ensler's Vagina Monologues Wednesday night. The series of monologues were directed towards violence against women.

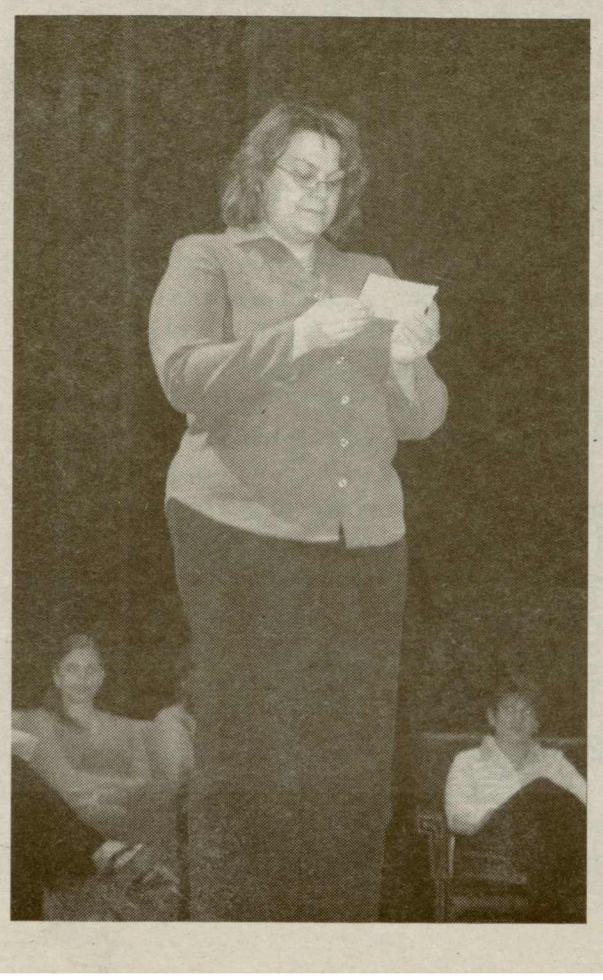
Photos from right: Madeline Kingston, Kate Murphy, Katie Ketcham, Joslyn Sykes, Jackie Del Viscovo, Debra Bailin, Kerri Sgarlata, Julie Theoret, Karen Murray, Jade Chaloux

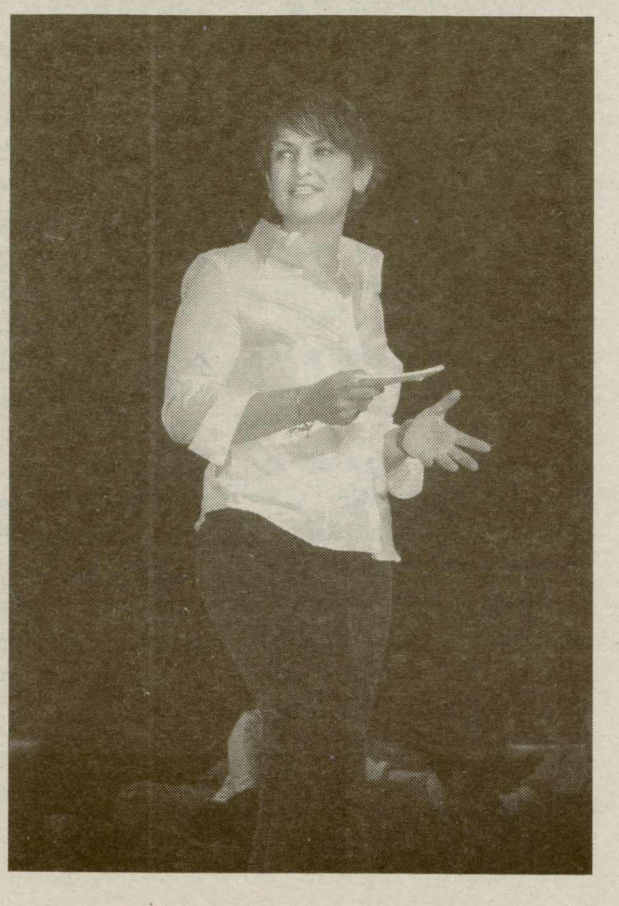
Photos by Tabitha Fitzgerald











Cataloger sorts through chaos of LSC's Library

By KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
MANAGING EDITOR

The library can go from a quiet, serene atmosphere, to a scene more like a hospital room triage in a matter of moments. Instead of wounded patients, books are being cataloged. Meanwhile two students need to find information on alternative energy sources, all while the phone rings as someone asks where the copy machine is.

One of the professionals assigned to help those in need through the chaos is Patricia Webster, cataloger at LSC's Samuel Read Hall Library. Webster has worked eight different jobs in the library during her 33 years there and has an easy handle on making sure people who come through the library get what they need.

"I'm bound and determined to be the first with the new Harry Potter book."

Webster's title as cataloger is slightly deceiving, as it isn't the only thing she does. "Everyone wears a million hats," she said. Webster, like the other librarians, is cross-trained to do everyone else's job if need be.

While cataloging, she sits at the help desk where a "Do no disturb" plaque has been modified to encourage disturbances. There, she helps anyone who comes up to the desk use the computer databases to find what they are looking for, whether it be books on leadership, educational journals, or simply the location of the nearest stapler.

Working the help desk at a library is very much a people oriented job, Webster said. The job she had before coming to LSC was in a hospital in Waterbury Vermont. There, she spent five summers working with severely autistic children. Although the job was rewarding, Webster found herself feeling burnt out and needed a change. Being a librarian at LSC seemed like a perfect fit.

Webster loves to read. Being a librarian, that doesn't come as a shock. What it surprising is how little time Webster actually gets to read. Five to eight in the evening on Saturdays and Sundays is the only time Webster gets to sit down with a good book. She enjoys reading science fiction and acknowledges one advantage to being a librarian: she can get to a book before anyone else does. "I'm bound and determined to be the first with the new Harry Potter book," Webster said.

Even though she can get to the new Harry Potter book faster than anyone, Webster makes sure the newest books that students need are capable of being found by cataloging it. When the library gets a new book, it comes with an OCLC sheet, which is a detailed description of the book, from its subject, to the number of pages it has. Webster's job is to create a call number for it, so it can be found amongst the rows of books in the library.

Using a program called Work Flows, Webster can use a list of suggested call numbers and find something called a cutter number, which is based on the author's name, in order to better classify the book.

Another part of Webster's job is to keep an eye on certain sections of the libraries collection. Webster keeps her finger on the pulse of the Psychology, Children's Literature and Fine and Performing Arts sections of the library. She keeps an eye out for new books coming out in those areas and gets a feel for possible holes in the libraries collection.

This part of her job is something that requires some personal interest to be good at.

Webster thinks of life after the library with an eye towards giving hospice care. Webster had experience caring for an elderly neighbor during his final days and felt that the experience was a rewarding one. "If you can help make someone more comfortable under those circumstances, it helps you too," Webster said.

Keith Whitcomb Jr., Critic Staff

Cataloger Patricia Webster leans on a shelf of books in her office in Samuel Read Hall Library

Lady Hornets travel to USCAA tournament

By ANDREW KOCH
Sports Editor

The Lady Hornets basketball team is in Broken Arrow, Okla. for the USCAA Women's National Tournament.

The team left by bus late Monday afternoon for their flights from Manchester, N.H. to Tulsa after a small reception with college administrators and friends in the theater lobby.

The team has overcome a lot of adversity to earn this trip to Oklahoma. Not even having five players slowed down the Lady Hornets.

"This team had a lot of heart and dedication. We really wanted to go to the tournament this year. We worked together, and we dealt with the tough games," junior co-captain Whitney Hoyt said, shortly before the team boarded the bus to Manchester.

"I think we can win our first game," Hoyt said of the Hornets' first round match-up against Judson College. Hoyt and sophomore forward Sara Fetterhoff both said that the Lady Hornets could "take it all the way," but that they'd take this tournament one game at a time, starting with Tuesday's opening game against Judson.

Sophomore forward-guard Kelly Warren joined the team in December, after Petell was injured. She gave the team an extra body that it desperately needed, not only in games, but in practice as well.

"I helped by pushing my teammates in practice, giving them an extra person for scrimmages, giving someone a quick five minutes for a sub if they needed it," Warren said.

The Lady Hornets currently have a record of 17-5, as well as the seventh seed in the tournament. The team will arrive back in Lyndon late Sunday night.

Lady Hornets lose first round of USCAA

By JAKE MARDIN
Critic Staff

LSC's Lady Hornets suffered a first-round loss in the USCAA National Tournament on Wednesday night, falling to Judson College 61-60 in Broken Arrow, Okla.

Judson College's Anna Billingham secured a victory for her team after hitting a shot with 1.7 seconds left. Billingham finished the game with 25 points and 20 rebounds. This came after LSC junior Whitney Hoyt hit a bucket with five seconds left that gave the Hornets a 60-59 lead.

The Hornets led 31-25 at halftime, but Judson College came back in an exciting second half that featured six lead changes.

Sophomore Jackie Wetzel was LSC's top scorer with 13 points, followed by Hoyt with 11 and sophomore Jennifer White with 10 points to go with her 11 rebounds.

Video game used to predict Hornet's Baseball Season

By JORDAN ROYER
Critic Staff

The Lyndon State baseball team is already ranked ninth in the nation and first in conference play, before officially taking the field this season.

The new rankings were released after Lyndon State defeated Clemson in both games of a double header in MVP '07 NCAA Baseball, a video game on Playstation 2.

A few baseball players couldn't wait for opening day so they decided to do the next best thing: create Lyndon State College in the video game. The game allows people to create teams and players and then compete against the pre-made teams of Division I schools across the Nation.

"It gives me hope for the season," said Captain Jesse Hersey. "It also helps with baseball knowledge," added the LSC senior.

"We all love baseball and it is just fun when you are playing as yourself," said Ryan Wimble, the owner of the game which has given his roommates many nights of enjoyment.

Although they all realize it is just a game, they feel it is a good way to get in the spirit of baseball. "It is every athlete's dream to be in a video game and this makes that dream a reality," Hersey said.

The Hornet Hardball team will take to the field against Massachusetts Maritime Academy on March 17, at which time they hope their video game success will roll over.

"Hopefully the success in NCAA will also transpire on the playing field this season," said sophomore Adam Pelletier. "I'd like to think I am as good an athlete as I am a gamer."

As for the cynics, "it is a fun and safe way to enjoy the sport of baseball," added Pelletier. "I realize it is a game, but then again, so is the real thing. I play both for the love of the sport."

Hornets Baseball goes to Florida for Spring Training

By JESSICA MILLHISER
Critic Staff

Baseball season is underway at LSC and started the year off with spring training down in Florida over winter break.

"We [had] two games, one on Thursday and one on Friday. Both [were] against Baruch from NYC," said Head Coach Ryan Farley. "It was a great week for us down there. We won both of our games."

"I'm excited for us, we're really coming together this season," said sophomore Matt Picard.

This season is going to bring more competitive teams since joining the NCAA. The team will play schools like Middlebury and Plattsburg State.

"Last year we only had three teams in the conference; you can only play the same team so many times," Farley said.

"We don't have necessarily a tougher schedule, but we need to play better teams to get better. You play to the level of your competition," Farley said.

"We have high expectations coming into D-3, NCAA. We're excited to face better competition," sophomore Ryan Wimble said.

"The big thing I was impressed with is that my guys played eight or nine hours of baseball a day, all week down in Florida and it paid off. We're definitely on the right track. We still have a long way to go in terms of communication and recognizing situations, but Florida was a good stepping stone for us." Farley said.

Hornet News

Four Hornet basketball players were named USCAA All-Americans.

On the men's team, junior Brad Durr was named a Division I All-American. Durr finished fourth in the USCAA in scoring with 17.9 points per game, second in rebounding with 10.4 per game and finished with 9 double-doubles on the season, good for third in the USCAA.

Sophomore Kali Stoddard-Imari received Honorable Mention status for his season, which saw him lead the USCAA in double-doubles with 12, as well as finishing in the top ten in scoring and rebounding.

Senior Michael Paul was named an Academic All-American thanks to a 3.5 GPA.

Sophomore Sara Fetterhoff was the only Lady Hornet named an All-American (Honorable Mention) after finishing her year averaging close to a double-double, with 13.9 points per game and 8.2 rebounds per game, helping to lead the Lady Hornets to a 17-5 record and a 7th seed in the USCAA National Tournament.

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The Critic

Serving the student voice of the Northeast Kingdom

Lyndonville, Vermont | Friday, March 16, 2007 | Volume 53, Number 15

What's Inside

Driving by the old house yesterday, the ghosts of my childhood taunted me. The driveway was plowed and children were building a snowman in the backyard. I watched the children heave and push as they rolled their bodies over wet mounds of snow.

Pg. 2

LSC will be spending $75,000 on architectural drawings for potential structures on campus.
"It's a necessary step to bring donors to the project," Bob Whittaker, dean of Institutional Advancement said. One building would be another academic center and would house the Exercise Science department as well as the Meteorology department.

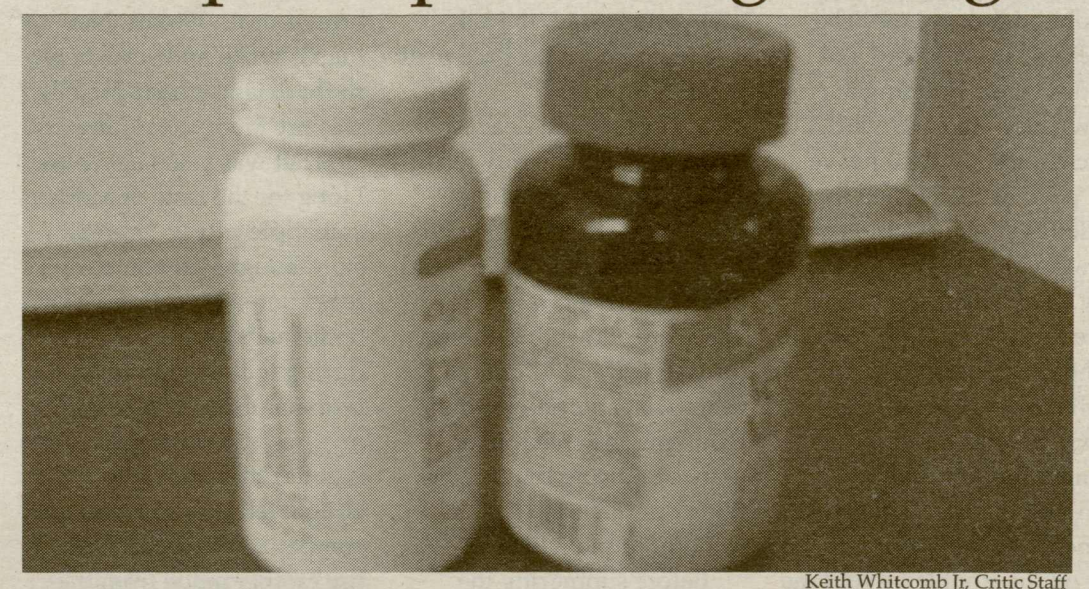
Pg. 4

The LSC basketball season came to an end with the Lady Hornets competing in the USCAA National Tournament in Broken Arrow, Okla. Although they suffered a heartbreaking one point loss to Judson College in the opening round of the tournament, they were able to split the two consolation games they played to finish the season 18-7.

Pg. 7

LSC students open up on drug useage

By CALEB BYERLY
Critic Staff



Keith Whitcomb Jr, Critic Staff

Perscription drugs (shown above) have become increasingly popular on college campuses and with college students.

Lyndon State College's official motto says "Experience Makes the Education," but some students have interpreted this motto to include using illegal drugs such as cocaine.

After interviewing three students who were eager to disclose their drug use, under the condition of anonymity for obvious legal reasons, more than 20 different kinds of illegal drugs (including LSD, cocaine and heroin) were identified by the students as being used on either a regular basis or on an experimental basis.

A senior, nicknamed "Dr. Mario" for this story, proudly listed the numerous prescription drugs he enjoyed; powerful painkillers Vicodin, Percocet, and Oxycontin.

"I do acid, shrooms (psychedelic mushrooms), coke, ecstasy, pills," Dr. Mario said, laughing. "You'd better put a star in your notes next to that one."

Although there was a long list of prescription drugs, Dr. Mario asserts that the hallucinogenic drug LSD was his preferred method of getting high.

"I do it for the learning experience," Dr. Mario said.

"I get to see the world from a new point of view. It's by far my drug of choice."

Another student, a sophomore, nicknamed "Smokey McCloud" for this interview, described his drug use as recreational and dismissed the dangers involved with drug use.

"There are a ton of things that kill your brain cells," McCloud said. "As long as you stay in control, you're okay."

Another sophomore, nicknamed "Lisa Lush", talked about doing drugs such as coke, mushrooms and ecstasy as recreation and during parties. While acknowledging the harmful effects these drugs have on the body, Lush did not see any reason to quit.

"I just do it for fun," Lush said. "If it gets out of control, I'll stop."

The belief that a drug user is in control of the drug is very na ve, according to Public Safety Director George Hacking, who has seen the devastating effects of drug abuse first hand.

"Some people don't know if they will become addicted," Hacking said. "It's na ve to think a person can control a drug. It controls the person."

The students that were interviewed all admitted to going to their classes under the influence of an illegal substance at least once. English professor Alan Boye is not unfamiliar with this fact.

"There have been numerous occasions where someone seems inebriated and reeks of alcohol," Boye said. "I have asked them to leave the class."

Boye annually conducts a casual survey among his students in order to find out what types of drugs are being brought onto the LSC campus.

"I am always shocked by the number of drugs on campus," Boye said. "I've found as an educator, it's much harder to learn and retain what you've learned when you're stoned."

None of the students that were interviewed for this story expressed any desire to stop using illegal drugs in the near future, though two did say they do intend to quit eventually.

Students discuss benefits of on and off campus living

By ANDREW KOCH
Critic Staff

Everyone who lives on campus in Stonehenge and Wheelock knows someone who either lives in the Rita Bole Complex or lives in an off-campus apartment in the area around Lyndon. What we might not have known until now is why our friends and acquaintances move into Rita Bole and off-campus.

For some students, it's cheaper to live off-campus. For others, they want to have an apartment-like setup with the convenience of staying on campus.

"It cost me $500 more to live on campus. I pay $300 a month with everything included except Internet and electricity," said junior Laura Sullivan, who lives in an apartment near downtown Lyndonville. Sullivan added that she likes the additional freedom that comes with living off campus.

"I feel more like an adult living off campus. On campus, some students misbehave, and it makes the RA's jobs more extreme. They come down harder on others for minor infractions," Sullivan said.

"I really like living off campus. I think it's a lot better. Almost all my friends live off campus. You have more freedom to do what you want, instead of having to share everything in your suite. I can make all the noise I want without worrying about waking people up. I can cook at all hours of the night without the smoke detector going off," Sullivan said, adding that when she lived on campus, she was fined hundreds of dollars for violations ranging from "illegal" power strips to fire alarms going off casued by other residents burning their popcorn.

Sullivan went on to say that for drawbacks, she does have some issues with her landlord and the parking situation around her building, especially during the winter, when there is a parking ban in effect every night.

Tyler Southard, also a junior, chose to move into Rita Bole this year. He says he likes the setup in the rooms as well as the chance to cook his own food.

"I like the apartment-style setup. You get to make your own food – no more Aramark. You get to choose who you room with instead of sometimes having random people chosen for you," Southard said, adding that the setup might also help improve peoples' moods during the long Vermont winters.

"It's a lot better than Stonehenge, I think. It's a more friendly environment, more homely. I think it helps with morale," Southard said, adding that he wouldn't mind living off campus himself.

"If it weren't for commuting, I'd probably live off campus. Living in Rita Bole, is the closest thing to having your own apartment but it's convenient because it's still on campus," Southard said. He added that he finds the rules regarding noise and hall sports to be drawbacks for living in "The Bole," as some residents on campus call it.

Southard's roommate, Tristan Tuite, feels that in his personal experience, having one roommate that you dislike can ruin life in the apartment, just like in Wheelock and Stonehenge.

"Rita Bole is a good place to live if you like all your suitemates, but if you hate just one, it ruins the lifestyle," Tuite said.

Students who live on campus have more choices for lodging than just Stonehenge and Wheelock. A lot choose to move into apartments off campus in towns like St. Johnsbury and Burke. However, a lot more are choosing to stay on campus and move into the apartment-style setup of the rooms inside the Rita Bole Complex.

Moments Like This: It Seems Like Yesterday

By TRISH PENNYPACKER
CRITIC COLUMNIST

Driving by the old house yesterday, the ghosts of my childhood taunted me. The driveway was plowed and children were building a snowman in the backyard. I watched the children heave and push as they rolled their bodies over wet mounds of snow. I would believe that only a few years had passed since I ran through the halls of the spacious house, skated on the frozen pond in the backyard, and climbed through the rafters of the barn, but the crooked, aged branches of the crabapple tree on the front lawn told me otherwise.

I was eight years old when Dad brought the crabapple tree home from a local nursery. I was playing in the kitchen with my younger sisters when Mom started laughing in protest. Dad caught her in his arms, blindfolded her, and began twirling her dizzy. Curiously, we followed them onto the lawn, where Dad had the tree and a shovel waiting. When the blindfold was removed, Mom saw the skinny, budded red branches of the tree, and hugged and kissed Dad. She danced as she walked with my father across the lawn, trying to decide the best placement for the tiny tree. I didn't understand her excitement, until I tasted crab-apple jelly.

Only two years after Mom had planted her tree, she was able to make a couple of pints of crabapple jelly. As the years progressed, the jelly-jars began to fill the basement pantry.

My sisters and I eagerly offered to pick the tiny red fruit, in anticipation of the jelly. We were only allowed to pick the fruit that we could reach from the ground, tip-toes were allowed, climbing the tree was not. Mom taught us to twist and pluck gently, removing the crabapples without hurting the tree. We filled our buckets with the smooth, round fruit.

Before simmering the crabapples in a large stainless steel pot, Mom would sift through the twigs, leaves and bugs. As the fruit simmered, the house filled with a sweet, tempting aroma. "Don't touch the hot jars," Mom would say as she lined them to cool, on rows of white linen. "Listen. Make sure they pop," she'd say as we peered through the rose colored jars, the sunlight sifting through the glasses, casting a pink glow on our curious faces. "If they don't pop, that means they didn't seal. I'll have to reprocess them in hot water or they will not last." We laughed as the Pop! Pop! Ping! filled the air.

The best part came when we were finally allowed to taste the jelly. Mom would open a pint. Ping! The seal popped. Our mouths watered as she scooped into the jar, and spread the thick, sweet goop over crunchy, brown slices of toast. Next to maple syrup and strawberry-rhubarb jam, crabapple jelly was my favorite topping.

That was years ago. Now, I long for the taste of Mom's crabapple jelly as I spread store-bought jelly onto my toast. Sometimes I purchase homemade crab-apple jelly during the summer at local farmer's markets or I make my own strawberry jam. This is better than the store-bought jelly, but it holds no comparison to the jelly that my mother made from the crab-apples.

Driving by the old house yesterday, I noticed that much is the same. The house has been re-sided in the same yellow, the barn repainted in the same red. The same colored white curtains hang from my former bedroom window and a tabby cat, much-like my childhood tabby cat, sat on the same stone stoop where my cat used to bask in the sun.

However, the ancient cedar tree that had loomed above the house, its branches startling me during the dark night as it scratched the window pane, has been cut down; a brown cargo van, parked in the driveway, replaces my father's blue pickup; the hammock is gone

from the white birch trees, and our name is no longer scrawled on the side of an old, metal mailbox: an unknown name is engraved into the homestead sign that is mounted above the snow bank. These differences sadden me, but the greatness of the old crab-apple tree, with its bare solemn branches, saddens me the most.

Who would have thought that time would move so swiftly?

When we drive by the house, on our way to Littleton, my children sigh melodramatically, "We know, Mom. That's where you grew up." They tire of hearing me reminisce, but I keep reminding them that I was a child once too, as if to tell myself that it wasn't too long ago. My children know nothing of the ghosts that lie within the old yellow house on the edge of Route 18. They are too busy creating their own ghosts to understand.

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Message from the Student Government

Budgeting, Spring Day, and new Senate Members are the recent happenings in the SGA

The House met last Wednesday. Outing, GSA, and the Rugby clubs made proposals to the House. Next, the Vermont State College Student Association (VSCSA) representatives Adam Tracy and Hayley LaPoint, spoke to the House about issues discussed 2 weeks ago at the VSCSA meeting. They informed the House that the VSCSA is offering a substantial scholarship to any student leaders, campus wide. Also, the VSCSA is looking for applicants interested in applying for the Student Trustee position on the Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees. The applications for both the scholarship and the Student Trustee are available from the members of the VSCSA, Adam Tracy and Hayley LaPoint.

The House also began the official budgeting meetings last week. The House made it through the first two phases. The first phase is when clubs present their proposed budget. They will talk about their club's goals and what they've done this year. Each club will have five minutes to do so. In phase two, cutting begins and questions can be asked. This meeting lasted until 2 AM! Budgeting will continue weekly until the final budget is voted on.

Before break, Senate voted in four new members! We'd like to welcome freshman Justin Paluba, Sophomore Elizabeth Smythe, and Junior James Hunt. After resigning because of personal reasons earlier this semester, Senior Jeremy Lacey was voted back into Senate.

ARE YOU READY FOR SPRING DAY??!! The Senate is busily organizing for LSC's annual Spring Day celebration on April 14. This year is going to be the best yet! We've got laser tag, jousting, sumo wrestling, a dunk tank, mini golf, airbrush tattoos, food, and more. ALL FREE!!! We've also planned to end the day with the planting of a tree on campus.

Senate meets every Thursday at 7 PM.

Hayley LaPoint
SGA Vice President

Have an opinion? Write to The Critic

Letter Policy:

The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must be signed and include the author's phone number and address. The Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:

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Lyndonville, Vt. 05851

Opinions

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to the article in your Friday, March 9th issue titled "Club Budgets Get Diced During SGA House Meeting." Before I begin, I want to clearly state that although I am an SGA House representative, this letter in no way expresses or characterizes the opinions of the club I represent, nor of its executive board, nor of its advisor. Rather, I am writing this letter of my own accord because I feel a grave misconception about House has been raised to light.

I want to make it perfectly clear that the SGA House of Representatives does not in any way "hate" the Dance Team. They are a fellow club and we treat them as such, giving them the respect and dignity every club that sits at our "inner circle" deserves. The slashing of the Dance Team budget was an unfortunate, yet necessary measure that needed to be taken during Phase II of the budgeting process. Yes, the Dance Team did experience the largest cut of any club that night, but several facts were missing from the original Critic article as to why these cuts occurred, and why they were justified.

First of all, the Dance Team may have experienced the largest loss of money during Phase II, but they also requested nearly $30,000, second only to the Ice Hockey Club. Being a mathematics major, I did some simple calculations to compare their requested budget for this 2007-2008 academic year with their received budget for this past 2006-2007 academic year ($1,778.50). I was quite startled to find that the Dance Team had asked for nearly a 1,700% increase in their yearly budget! No other club came anywhere close to asking for such an increase. This is a bold statement for a club to make, and any House representative will tell you that if you request such a large sum of money, you had better give some pretty damn good reasons why.

The Dance Team's request unfortunately did not provide such reasons. The team requested to go to three Dance Competitions during this upcoming school year, something the SGA is happy to help with. After all, we gave them money in the Fall to attend two competitions when they made the proposal to the House. I might add, they then backed out of one of these competitions and failed to make the SGA aware of the situation until over a month later.

Regardless, each of these proposals insisted that the House pay for their travel expenses (by Greyhound Bus), as well as all of their meals. When asked why they cannot split the cost of gas amongst themselves and pay for their own food, a good reason was not forthcoming.

The Dance Team also requested money for uniforms, an item they have brought repeatedly to House in years past. The Ice Hockey club pays for their own uniforms, so why should the Dance Team be subject to any special treatment? Yet, they still put this item in their yearly budget and act very surprised when it gets cut year after year. At the time I am writing this, half of the Dance Team's costume budget is surprisingly still intact.

This past 2006 Spring semester, the very last meeting of House was a joint-session in which we practically rewrote the Student Government constitution. It was a very long meeting, lasting until 12:15 am. None of us were particularly happy to be there, but we knew it was something that had to be done for the sake of this organization. Not so for the Dance Team, whose representative left during the first break at 9:30 pm and never came back.

I find it ironic that they are so quick to complain about how their budget "gets mutilated year after year," yet they do not even have enough respect for the Student Government Association to fulfill arguably the most important obligation of that school year. If they cannot take their responsibilities to the SGA seriously, how can we expect to return the favor?

I hope I have made myself clear that we in House do not "hate" the Dance Team. Rather, it is their own disrespect, lack of preparation, and inability to communicate with each other that contributes to their budget being reduced every March. It's easy to sit around and complain about a certain situation, but if the Dance Team wants to impress me, they will identify these problems, fix them, and become a better club because of it.

Thank you for your time.

Eric M. Guillot
LSC Junior
House Representative

To the Lyndon State College Community,

I am writing to all of you in the hopes that you will take a moment to recognize with myself the tireless efforts of all those who were involved over the last 16 months in bringing streaming to WWLR.

The collaborative efforts of the Information Technologies Department under the direction of Mike Dente proved invaluable to myself and the rest of the management team of WWLR in our streaming efforts, from its conceptualization to completion. I would like to specifically thank: Mike Dente, Tony Santacaterina, Aidan Howe, Steve Allen, and Ed Simpson for their countless hours of networking, and software design & construction during this project.

I would further like to specifically thank the assistance of President Carol Moore, Dean of Administration Wayne Hamilton, Dean of Institutional Advancement Bob Whittaker, Assistant Academic Dean John Kascenska, Comptroller Robert Bean, Fiscal Specialist Annette Roberts, and WWLR club Advisor Prof. Mark Hilton. Without their continued support, advice, and assistance WWLR's goal of streaming would never have gotten off the ground.

I would also like to thank the numerous community businesses that have chosen to sponsor WWLR through underwriting, aiding us in attainment of enough capital to purchase all the necessary components of this streaming project (roughly $9,800.00).

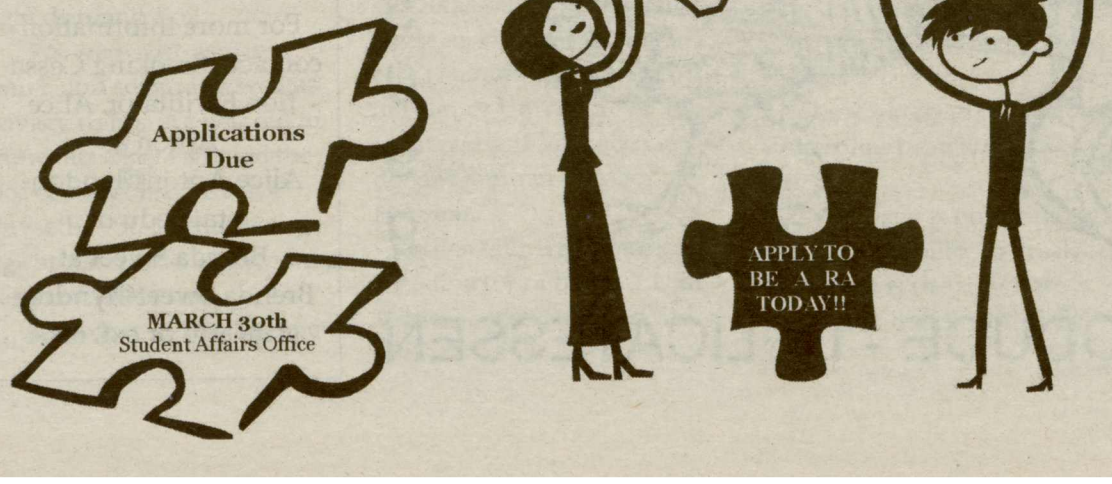
As of now, with the announcement of the completion of WWLR's streaming Tuesday March 6th 2007, the entire world now can benefit from the incredible talent that WWLR has to offer by clicking on our streaming link at: www.lyndonstate.edu/wwlr Every show of every DJ we have, every community event we host or sponsor, every LSC sporting event we broadcast, every local high school sporting event Northeastsportsnet.com broadcasts through us, and every LSC weather and news report announced will reach a global audience. Every current student, alumni, faculty, staff, parent, or prospective student may now find out what's going on at Lyndon State at the click of a mouse, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. WWLR has truly become the voice of Lyndon State College.

The joint efforts of so many from within the college and from the community who have come together to assist WWLR's management team in this momentous evolutionary step for the station, represent the best of what Lyndon State College is all about. Together we can all make a tremendous difference and instill pride in our college not only in ourselves but also in countless others. I am extremely proud that WWLR could represent such a vehicle for LSC this year and into the future. Please tune in to WWLR 91.5 FM The Impulse, The top radio station in the NEK of VT, and setting the standard for college radio worldwide!!

Jeremy Lacey, General Manager
WWLR 91.5 FM , The Impulse

Are you the missing piece of our puzzle??

The Student Life department is currently accepting applications for ***Resident Assistant*** positions for this fall.
Applications can be picked up from your RHD or from the Student Life Office



Upcoming Event
Speed Networking

Wednesday, March 28 from 1:00-2:00 p.m. in the Burke Mountain Room.
LSC 's 2nd Speed Networking Event.
Spend 1 hour and talk with 10 professionals representatives from the banking, hospitality, manufacturing, insurance, graphic design, GIS, recreation and social service industries -finding out what employers are looking for in future employees.

Every 5 minutes a bell will ring and you'll move on to the next professional to ask questions or seek advice. Not sure of what to ask? Don't worry. We'll provide you with a list of suggested questions and topics. You can even bring your resumé to be critiqued.
Questions? Contact Career Services at 626-6221.

Millon dollar donation update

By KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
MANAGING EDITOR

LSC will be spending $75,000 on architectural drawings for potential structures on campus.

"It's a necessary step to bring donors to the project," Bob Whittaker, dean of Institutional Advancement said.

One building would be another academic center and would house the Exercise Science department as well as the Meteorology department. It would also contain a third department which has yet to be decided on, Whittaker said

The other structure would be for student affairs. It would house the Student Government Association offices and other student-central, yet non-academic, departments and offices.

Together it is estimated that the buildings will cost $10.5 million. LSC has not been given the green light to proceed with the projects. The models that have been commissioned will help better determine where to put the buildings on campus as well as exactly what will go in them, Whittaker said.

LSC has many more hoops to jump through before any ground is broken Whittaker said. Without the $75,000 drawings, donors will not give money to the project. The drawings can also be completed and then kept around until the money is raised.

The $75,000 for the drawings comes from the $1 million gift given to LSC by the Valade Family Trust. The $1 million was not handed over as part of one big check; instead the gift is technically a pledge of $1 million to be handed over in payments for the next 15 months. LSC currently has $50,000 of the gift already and expects the rest of it by June 30 of 2008.

The $75,000 allocation is the smallest of the allocations mentioned by LSC President Carol Moore at the last State of the College Address. The largest was the $350,000 set to matching donations. For every dollar LSC receives in gifts over $1000, LSC will match it with another dollar. This will serve as an incentive for donors to give gifts of $1000 or more, Whittaker said.

Two other large allocations, both of $200,000, will go to retaining students and improving the faculty.

One of LSC's weaknesses is retaining students on the lowest end of the academic spectrum in terms of grades as well as those students who do exceedingly well. The Gateway program, and other programs like it, will receive help from the $200,000 allotted to them.

The other $200,000 going towards faculty improvements will pay for guest speakers and workshops, Whittaker said.

Pipe burst in residence hall causes damages

By KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
MANAGING EDITOR

A frozen pipe burst in Arnold residential hall caused those living in the suite to be moved out.

"We estimated the total damages at about $3,500. We're still researching specific items that the students lost, such as a computer charger," Director of Student Life Jonathan Davis said.

It took a few days for the students that were flooded out to be moved back in. The proper color of carpet the college uses was low in stock.

"I talked to the Director of Physical Plant, and we've determined that we can allow the students to move back into the suite starting on Sunday. The contractors should be done installing the carpet by Saturday," Davis said.

"When part of the infrastructure lets go, we assess it appropriately, contact our insurance company, and reimburse the affected students appropriately. In this case, the amount of damage didn't meet our deductible," Davis said.

The college has taken some preventative measures so that the pipe does not burst again. "We've put sensors in the pipes to make sure that when we get cold snaps like we've been having, there will always be water running through the pipes to prevent bursts," Davis said.

"In other cases, there have been fires and floods on other campuses. The insurance company pays for most of the damage, while the college relocates the affected students," Davis said.

Classes may be on break but campus life goes on

By SARAH DONAGHY
CRITIC STAFF

During LSC's breaks the offices at the college remain open even in the students' absence.

"I'd say probably around 50 students stay on campus [during the vacations] for a variety of different reasons."

Erin Miner, Residence Hall Director of Wheelock, said.

Most students choose to go home or at least spend their vacations somewhere other than the school, but for those who do not leave there is little to do on campus.

"I'd say probably around 50 students stay on campus [during the vacations] for a variety of different reasons," Erin Miner the Residence Hall director of Wheelock said. "Students need to be working on or off campus in the area or have some sort of serious travel conflict to be allowed to stay on campus during break."

Another reason sighted for staying on campus was involvement in sports. Members of sports teams often stay behind because of games or the need to continue practicing even when classes aren't in session. Miner said that the number of students staying on campus over breaks had a lot to do with what sports were in season and what the teams were doing.

The offices stay open during vacation weeks as well. Some may have shortened hours, like the library or the Hornet's Nest, but still stay open for the benefit of the remaining students.

Some of the students working on campus stay to fulfill personal obligations they have to the school. Jeremy Lacey, a senior at LSC, works in the business office as well as spending much of his vacation time working with LSC's radio station, WWLR.

"As general manager of WWLR it is my responsibility to ensure continuity of programming," Lacey said. "WWLR also broadcast local sports casts that happen during our breaks."

"There really aren't a number of things to do so what I try to do is get caught up on my work as an RA," Carrie Quinn, one of the resident assistants on campus, said. "Most of the people who stay on campus are involved in sports or work anyway."

Those who do stay on campus during the week long breaks do not have to pay extra as they do during summer. Unlike summer, they also don't have to apply and wait on a list to find out if there will be room for them.

"I certainly encourage people to let [Jonathan Davis, Hope Abarno, or me] know a week in advance," Miner said. "It makes things easier for them and for us when we are closing the [residence] halls."

Looking to Quit Smoking??

FREE Smoking Cessation Classes
4:00-6:00 – Vail 226
(Vail Conference Room)
March 14, 21, 28 & April 11, 18, 25
Be smoke free and healthier by this summer

For more information contact: Smoking Cessation Facilitator, Alice Anton at Alice.Anton@lyndonstate.edu or Brenda Sweet at Brenda.Sweet@lyndonstate.edu or ext. 6254

Community panel speaks of issues facing UVM

Group discusses parking, buses, drinking and the Davis Center

By VERA SIMON-NOBES
UVM Cynic Correspondant

Students from the University of Vermont gathered on Feb.28 for a discussion on all aspects of campus life.

The Inter Residence Association (IRA) hosted the Community Forum. IRA invited students and delegates from police services, parking and transportation, dining services and the department of residential life. The panel discussed dining questions and transportation issues, among others.

Paul Bahan, director of marketing for dining services, announced that Cook Commons will transition from a "grab and go" to an "all you care to eat" dining facility for the 2008-2009 school years. Bahan also commented that the Davis center will offer the "grab and go" option for central campus.

According to Bahan, starting Sept. 1 2007, the Marketplace at the Davis center will offer multiple dining options. Bahan described some of the dining options, which will include Indian food and a Mediterranean station, according to Bahan, "that will go far be-yond pizza." Sakura will serve sushi and New World Tortilla will provide students with Mexican cuisine.

While the Davis center will offer a large variety of international food choices, the plan is for the Davis center to use as much local food as possible. According to Bahan, some menu items will be unique to UVM and will incorporate Vermont products. The Farmer's Diner, of Quechee, VT is one of the venues focusing on Vermont food.

One of the dining options, Brennan's Pub, was the topic of some student's questions, with student's voicing worries that offering a place to drink on a dry campus will create more incriminating situations for students.

"We know that students will drink on campus. We know that they'll go downtown. We want to create a space where students can drink with their friends or family when they come," Bahan said. Bahan emphasized that the pub will have strict regulations and limits.

"UVM understands the responsibility that comes with an on campus pub," Bahan said. According to Bahan, UVM is looking at other campuses, including Middlebury College, as models as they put the finished plans for Brennan's Pub and Bistro into motion.

Concerns about current alcohol usage were discussed with Sue Roberts, an officer with police services. With the police services fully staffed, some students worried about the presence of police on weekend buses.

"It's okay to have [an officer] on the bus, but it makes people second guess getting on the bus when the police officer is breathalyzing almost every kid who gets on," freshman Bob Just said. "If they feel threatened to go on the bus, they may end up walking or driving."

"We want to get students back to school safely," Roberts said, "if we were going to stalk students who drink, we'd just wait at the bus stop."

Roberts said that officers are on busses because drivers have requested their presence. "Once the problem is generated and we're contacted, we're not just going to target the one person who started it."

The transportation theme continued as several students expressed dissatisfaction with crowding on busses.

"The bus driver looks at you and shakes his head, and keeps driving [because the bus is already at capacity]," one student in the audience said.

Katherine Decarreau, director of parking and transportation empathized with the students while explaining the logistics. According to Decarreau, UVM recently purchased two new busses, which can hold up to 20 percent more students than the old buses. This increase brings the total to 10 buses, but according to Decarreau, staffing them is a challenge.

"Sometimes students just have to get up a little bit earlier, and walking is always an option as well," Decarreau said.

St. Mikes' students want cops off campus

Students at the private catholic college feel rights are abused by local police

By DIANA DIARBAKERLEY
UVM Cynic Correspondent

Approximately one hundred St. Michael's College students gathered on their campus to demand respect for their constitutional rights.

The protesters would like the Colchester Police Department to be banned from campus, according to The Burlington Free Press.

The demonstration was followed by a forum. Protest organizers invited two lawyers from the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) to attend.

Protesters feel that the police are violating their civil rights, illegally searching property and forcing students to take breathalyzer tests without probable cause.

All protesters were of the legal drinking age.

"We were addressing search and seizure as well as privacy rights. We wanted to know our exact rights in the face of the police," Kelsey Stavseth, a St. Michael's College student who attended the demonstration, said.

According to The Burlington Free Press, Lieutenant Doug Allen, who attended the forum, addressed student's concerns, explaining that police need a warrant to search any private property.

Allen said student's speculations that there has been an increase in police on campus are accurate.

> *"Students just need to know their rights. The police are constantly invading the living spaces of students without just cause."*
>
> **Sophomore Sam Daniels, said.**

It is due to an increase of incidents relating to alcohol abuse as well as safety concerns stemming from the murder of University of Vermont student Michelle Gardener-Quinn in October of last year.

Allen Gilbert, the executive director of the ACLU of Vermont, also attended the forum, explaining to students that police have the right to request identification or administer a breathalyzer test if a student is with someone who appears to be underage and intoxicated.

Protesters want to make sure people understand that the sole purpose of the demonstration was not to remove police from campus, but for students to understand their rights at their private institution.

The demonstration has created a buzz around the St. Mike's campus.

In addition, dozens of bloggers have posted their opinions on The Burlington Free Press Web site.

One blogger explained that he thought the pro-testers were simply being "bratty" college students, while other bloggers felt that students were simply fighting for their rights.

Some bloggers feel that the protest has been misconstrued.

"The issue is not drinking, it is not the ability to break the law. It is the rights enshrined in the constitution. The demands of the protest went well beyond decreased police presence."

While UVM is a public university where the law and rules are more clear cut, many students feel that they are facing issues similar to those of St. Mike's College.

Eric Mintz, a junior at UVM said that he was once forcibly held inside a packed house for four hours by the police who were waiting for a warrant, but once they did not receive it demanded any underage students take a breathalyzer test.

"The police showed absolutely no care for the safety of the people inside the house or, for that matter, the safety of anyone else in the vicinity," Mintz said.

It was clear that their main objective was to charge someone with something.

"Parties are not criminal. Underage drinking is an of fense, but it would seem to me there are more pressing issues for the Burlington Police Department," Mintz said.

St. Mike's students gathered hundreds of stories like this around their own campus and read them at the protest.

Other UVM students have heard many other stories like this around campus, but have not experienced it for themselves.

"Students just need to know their rights. The police are constantly invading the living spaces of students without just cause," Sophomore Sam Daniels, said.

According to UVM Chief of Police Gary Margolis, these statements are not accurate.

Chief Margolis explained that the police act by terms on the U.S. Constitution, federal law and Vermont law.

The majority of accusations of police violations against the police are violations of the fourth amendment, which deals with search and seizure. Because of the complexities of this amendment and the law, students probably do not fully understand it.

Margolis suggests that students further research the law to understand their rights especially in the face of the police.

For more Vermont News, go to www.vermontcynic.com

Fun Page

Sudoku

9					2	6	4	
8	7	1	4			2		
		2	5		3			
	3			6		8		1
2		7				9		4
6		8		4			2	
			6		4	5		
		5			7	1	8	6
	2	6	8					7

HOW TO PLAY- The ojective of the game is to fill all the blank squares in a game with the correct numbers. There are three rules to follow in a 9 by 9 square Sudoku game:

* Every row of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order
* Every column of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order
* Every 3 by 3 subsection of the 9 by 9 square must include all digits 1 through 9

Weekend Forecast
STUDENT METEOROLOGIST: Steve LaVoie
The latest forecast for Northeast Vermont including Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans counties.

Unsettled weather is expected across the Northeast Kingdom this weekend as two very different types of storms impact the region. Our current concern is with a slow moving cold front to our north and west. This front has produced around a half inch of rain across the region and when combined with rapid snow melt and warmer temperatures, the threat for ice jams exist. The breaking up of river ice can lead to fluctuations in river level and cause flooding in areas near rivers and streams. If you live or work near a river or stream, be prepared for the possibility of flooding. Skies will begin to clear out as high pressure moves into the region on Friday but this will only be a short reprieve in the stormy weather. A coastal storm is expected to impact the region on Saturday with the potential for significant snowfall this weekend.

Friday
Partly Cloudy
Low: - F
High: 25-32 F
A mix of sun and clouds. Northwest wind 5-10mph.

Friday Night
Partly Cloudy
Low: 13-20 F
High: - F
Increasing cloudiness and snow developing after midnight. Heavier snow is likely towards dawn. Northeast wind around 10mph.

Saturday
Snow
Low: 8-15 F
High: 25-32 F
Cloudy with snow likely. The potential exists for 6-12 inches of snow.

Horoscopes

Pisces (Feb 19-Mar 20) Stop trying to be solid as a rock, you're not a Chevy. Let someone else take care of you. If that means lacy lingerie and a mini-keg of Heineken, so be it.
Aries (Mar 21-Apr 19) You have a gorgeous smile so stop pouting like Angelina and use it. Get rid of your moody 'tude this week because your starting to lose your sexy. Have fun.
Taurus (Apr 20-May 20) Someone from the past has been on your mind lately. This person may have caused you more grief than Charlie Brown, but it's worthwhile to look into the sparks.
Gemini (May 21-Jun 21)A fiery redhead has been playing all the right games with you. Keep your eye on them though; they may break your heart in two. Refrain from public rest stops this week.
Cancer (Jun 22-Jul 22) Stop creepin' on Myspace and Facebook and get a real life. It's not normal that you know things about people that you've never met. Spring is almost here, so come out of your cave.
Leo (Jul 23-Aug 22) Unfortunately people are laughing and it's not with you.
Virgo (Aug 23-Sept 22) Someone has a crush on you but they are a little too shy to show it.
Libra (Sept 23-Oct 22) A love triangle is nothing but bad news this week. As good as it sounds resist the urge to shack up with
Scorpio (Oct 23-Nov 21) It's hit or miss this week. It's time to go out and be your hot as sin self. Cut whatever chains are holding you down and go crazy. You deserve more than you're getting.
Sagittarius (Nov 22-Dec 21 Your standards have been a little low lately. As a general rule of thumb, avoid drive-thru windows as potential places to meet your next great love.
Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 19) Walking around your house in your bathrobe screaming "Do you have love for New York" is really not working for you this week. Try doing something or someone creative.
Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 18) You're hot so work it. Enough said.

St. Patrick's Day Word Search

BEER	IRELAND	PARADE
DRINKING	IRISH	PATRICK
GOLD	LEPRECHAUN	GREEN
SHAMROCK	LUCKY	SNAKES

R B T M L I E M J D P V L O E
F G R U D E A D O N Z L E Y G
P M C K D L R F J A R M P Y L
X K N A C I O U G L S V R E K
Y S R Q N I M G L E Y H E U A
W A Q K O O R Y R R U V C G N
P J I E L L M T Q I A G H R L
S N A U W G Z I A H H O A A G
G N V R E G E F C P C D U B O
W P R A U C K H A P I N N H G
H G O E U Q A K O B Y R M U E
H R O P B A M X F T C S I W R
U E N K C O R M A H S W M S E
C E H W C I W R E E B Y B K H
S N A K E S B C M M Z F T D D

A year in review for Hornets Basketball

Men's and women's teams share successes of season

By JAKE MARDIN
CRITIC STAFF

The LSC basketball season came to an end with the Lady Hornets competing in the USCAA National Tournament in Broken Arrow, Okla. Although they suffered a heartbreaking one point loss to Judson College in the opening round of the tournament, they were able to split the two consolation games they played to finish the season 18-7.

In the first game, LSC defeated New Hampshire Technical Institute 60-52. The leading scorer was sophomore Jennifer White with 14 points, while junior Whitney Hoyt contributed with a double-double, scoring 10 points and grabbing 11 rebounds.

The following night, the Lady Hornets faced Taylor University-Fort Wayne and were defeated 72-70. Sophomore Jackie Wetzel had 14 points despite playing with a taped up hand due to injury, followed by White and Hoyt with 13 and 12 points, respectively. Despite the loss, coach Vincent Maloney praised his team, calling this game "one of our best performances of the year."

This season was an example of the toughness and resiliency that the Lady Hornets posess. "We were faced with adversity all year," Maloney said, referring to the injuries and eligibility issues that plagued the team. One such injury occurred early in December when freshman Kristin Petell was involved in a car crash in Danville. Petell suffered a concussion, a large gash on her head, a black eye, a bruised hip and back and whiplash. Despite her injuries, Petell was able to return to the team earlier this semester, which Maloney says was "a great lift for our team."

> *"All 11 guys stepped up in the second semester. Every member of the team took responsibility to give 100 percent effort."*
>
> **Men's Basketball Coach, Randy Rathburn, said.**

Another reason for the Lady Hornet's successful run was the two captains, Whitney Hoyt and sophomore Elizabeth Hall. Maloney called the two "great leaders" and said they were able to lead by example as well as firing up the team when they needed it. Jennifer White and sophomore Sara Fetterhoff, along with the captains, were the only players to play every game this season.

While the men's team didn't reach the USCAA National Tournament this season, they displayed the same toughness as the Lady Hornets by rallying from a 2-9 start to finish the season 11-12, including two overtime wins against New Hampshire Technical Institute and Morrisville State College in the final two games of the season. "All 11 guys stepped up in the second semester," Coach Randy Rathburn said. "Every member of the team took responsibility to give 100 percent effort."

Aside from the second half turnaround, there were two moments that stand out: senior Brent Fowler playing his final game in front of an LSC crowd, and junior Brad Durr reaching the 1,000 point mark for his career. Fowler put on a show in his final home game on Feb. 3, scoring 21 points to go with eight rebounds and six assists against Southern Maine Community College. "It was a very emotional day for him and myself," Rathburn said. "It was a great way to cap his stellar career."

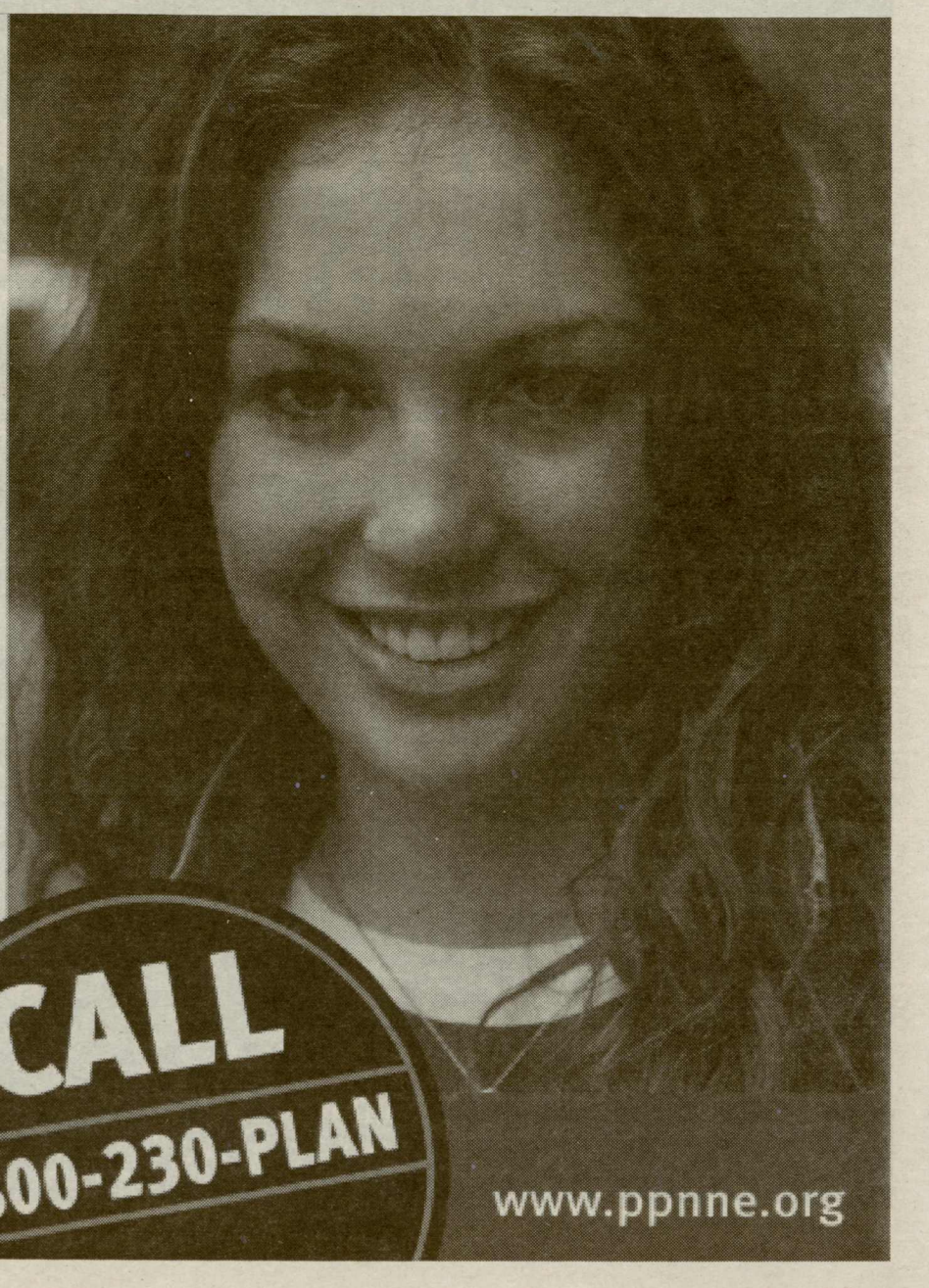
Durr scored his 1,000th point against rival Johnson State College on Feb. 13 in a game that saw him score 24 points and pull down 10 rebounds. Rathburn called the feat "amazing" for a player who is still a junior. Durr was named a Division I All-American, ending his season with 17.9 points per game and 10.4 rebounds per game. Rathburn says he may become a captain next season.

Another bright spot for the team was the play of sophomore Kali Stoddard-Imari, who scored 17.2 points per game and grabbed 9.4 rebounds per game. Stoddard-Imari also led the USCAA in double-doubles with 12 on the season. Coach Rathburn attributes some of Stoddard-Imari's success to a conversation the two had during the season when Rathburn told him to attack the basket whenever he was in the paint because nobody would be able to stop him. This proved to be true as Stoddard-Imari continued to improve as the season went on. "His potential is through the roof," Rathburn said.

Other players having a positive impact on the team include sophomore Andrew Longley, who Rathburn said did a good job running the team, and freshman Joe Visker, who ended up being the teams 6th man and giving the team a "shot in the arm" with his intensity. Mike Paul also provided a reliable outside threat, and he sank a game winning three pointer against New Hampshire Technical Institute on Jan. 13.

As for next season, with Fowler being the only senior departure, both coaches have high hopes. Maloney hopes the Lady Hornets will make a return trip to the national tournament, while Rathburn hopes his team will do the same with some different players being able to step up and fill the leadership position.

I am taking care of myself



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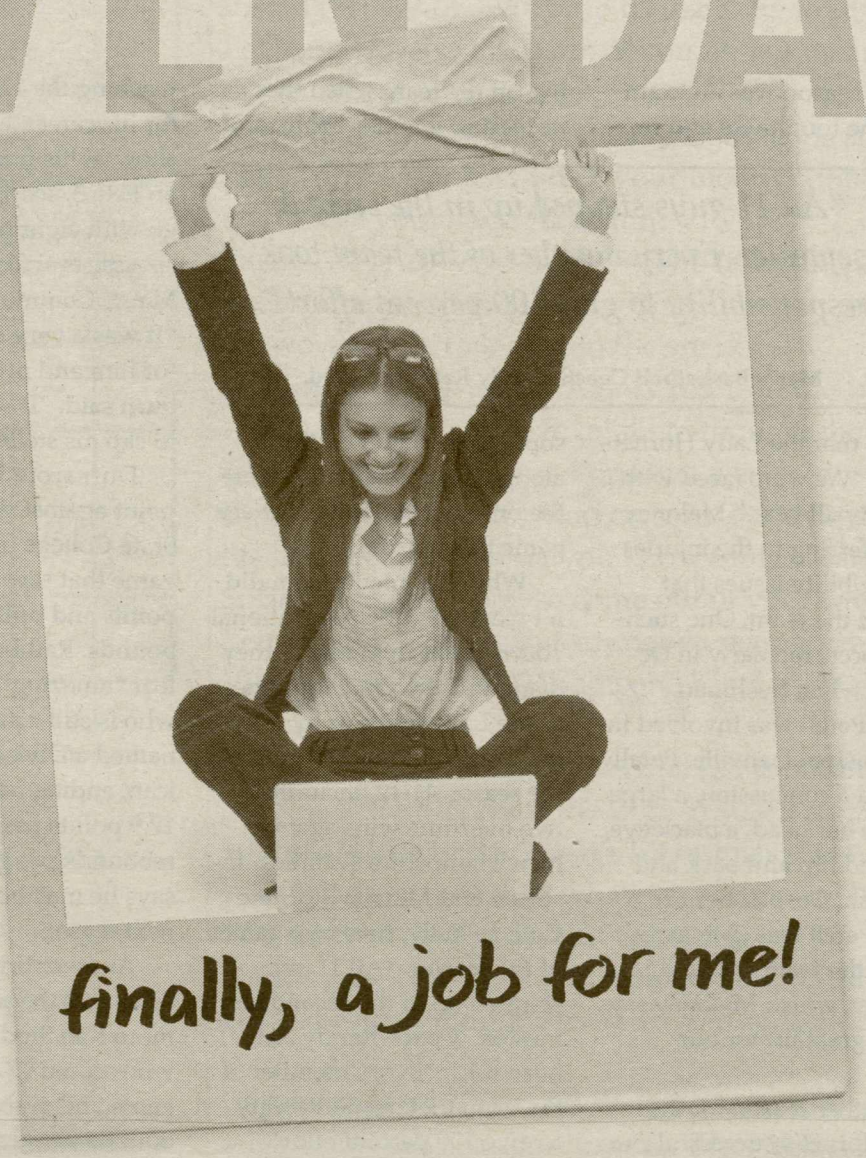
SEVEN DAYS



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A week spent in the South at the Univeristy of Mississippi

The Critic

Serving the student voice of the Northeast Kingdom

Article and photos on Page 4.

Lyndonville, Vermont | Friday, March 23, 2007 | Volume 53, Number 16

What's Inside

Mystery genre writer visits LSC

Carla Neggers, having written over 50 mystery-suspense books, visited Lyndon State College Monday. Negger's son, Zach, who attends LSC, was present at his mother's presentation.

Pg. 2

Tests show water is safe to drink

An informal water quality test showed that the water coming out of the fountains and ice dispensers at LSC is safe to drink. The first round of tests showed normal levels of nitrates and phosphates in all three samples.

Pg. 5

New Banners

The new banners decorating campus light posts are the first step Lyndon State College is taking towards a centennial celebration Bob Whittaker, Dean of Institutional Advancement, said.

Pg. 5

LSC participates in Special Olympics

Ten members of the LSC community were slated to participate in the fundraiser but due to the weather only seven were able to make it to Burlington.

Pg. 7

Vaculik family back working their "Full Belly"

Local business creates a new and comfortable atmosphere after recent renovations

By JOSHUA DAMASO
CRITIC STAFF

Jake Mardin, Critic Staff

John, Carrie, and Tara Vaculik recently reopened their popular business Full Belly Deli after renovations.

Local residents and students looking to lose weight may have suffered a giant, but delicious, setback. On Feb. 28, Full Belly Deli reopened for business in Lyndonville.

"When we opened it was like [opening] the flood gates," said Carrie Vaculik, who owns and operates the sandwich shop with her husband, John, and three children, Tara, 18, Billy 15, and Joey, 10.

Now, with an expanded menu that includes pizza, fried foods, salads, and breakfast, Full Belly Deli is back in full swing, picking up right where it left off.

Shortly before opening for business in September 2005, the Vaculik family had inquired with several local business owners about subleasing space to open a deli. After speaking with the then-owner of Broad Street Discount Beverage and Redemption, Bill Lewis, a deal was struck that lent a portion of the store's space to the Vaculiks.

As the deli's first year of business went on, demand kept escalating. For John Vaculik, it was beyond anything he could have imagined upon occupying a small corner of the store.

"We'd get a lot of students," he said, adding that LSC students seemed to appreciate the 10 percent discount the deli offered.

Before long, Vaculik said positive feedback throughout town and word-of-mouth advertising eventually led to a need for more room. Soon the Vaculiks found themselves once again looking for a new, more accommodating location.

Then, within a few weeks of leaving Broad Street Discount Beverage, the Vaculiks found themselves moving back in – this time as the sole occupants of the building. As luck would have it, Lewis' lease expired on the redemption center soon after the Vaculiks left. After Lewis chose not to renew his lease, Broad Street Discount Beverage closed its doors shortly after Full Belly Deli.

For the Vaculiks, it was one of the best possible situations for a company that built so many relationships with customers at its original 45 Broad Street location.

Soon after the building was solely their own, the couple worked on renovations hoping to give customers a feeling like they'd never left home for dinner.

"We want people to be comfortable when they're here," Carrie Vaculik said. "We all joke with customers and staff all the time."

"We decided that when we were going to do [renovations to] this deli, we were going to be different," John Vaculik added, noting that families were kept in mind while trying to create a new, comfortable atmosphere.

Upon reopening, the couple admitted that they were hoping for a soft opening to ease their way back into the Lyndonville community. Within fifteen minutes of opening their doors to the public again, people were already starting to pile in.

Additionally, several local businesses showed their appreciation to the Vaculik family by sending flowers and balloons to help celebrate their reopening.

"It was wonderful," Carrie Vaculik said. "We never expected any of that."

After realize that several people lost their jobs when Broad Street Discount Beverage closed, the Vaculiks hired three of the store's former employees to join their own staff. Additionally, the couple decided to make the store more handicapped accessible than it used to be, widening isle ways and tiling the floor for easier wheelchair access.

"We have a lot of people who are happy to see how easy it is to move around," Vaculik said.

Aside from all the renovations and expansion, the Vaculiks said they're just happy to once again serve a community that welcomed them with open arms not one, but twice.

"It's like we never shut our doors," Vaculik said. "Business has been great."

Jake Mardin, Critic Staff

The Full Belly Deli continues to serve the community after recently adding more space and an expanded menu to the business.

Mystery writer speaks on experience in the business

By MARY WHEELER
EDITOR

As a young child, sitting in a tree with a pen and pad of paper allowed Carla Neggers' vivid imagination to come to life.

Neggers, having written over 50 mystery books, brought this inventive imagination to Lyndon State College Monday. Neggers' son, Zach Jewell, an LSC sophomore Graphic Design major, was present at his mother's presentation.

"There are many different paths to becoming a writer," Neggers said. "A lot of people don't become writers until much later in their lives."

Neggers, who is currently working on a book entitled "The Angels," due out in February 2008, finds herself writing approximately two books per year with an occasional re-issue. Along with "Cut and Run," Neggers also released "Abandon" this year. One of her re-issues, "The Widow," released in 2006, will be distributed in paperback format with a different cover that Neggers described as having a "higher impact look" that better represented the suspense and theme of the book.

Neggers' inspirations for her books come from just about anywhere. She explained how she places characters in situations where they're tested and pushed to their limits, eventually leading to a series of suspenseful and captivating events.

Research is key to creating believable characters, Neggers said. Neggers expressed how talking with people whom she thinks can relate and accomplish things that her intended characters can, is her personal way of making the characters appear as human-like as possible. Some of her characters, (including a Dutch man, she based off of her father) are from her real life experiences.

"Every book is different and you never know where things are going to go," she said. "When you write a book you hope people will like it and is well received by the public."

Neggers said that her major focus is on the story, and through time, steadily progresses with the piece. As for deadlines, she tries not to concentrate on them, but rather focuses her efforts on the depth of the story. However with her current book "The Angels," and every other book she has written, Neggers said that publishers will always have set deadlines, and it's the writer's duty to fulfill those deadlines.

A writer's style, according to Neggers, is divided into two categories; the blank page writers, and the outline writers. Neggers said that writers need to create a balance of having a specific outline which provides a framework for a piece, but also have the ability to write freely. Neggers said that she typically creates 75 pages of blank page writing before switching back to an outline format.

> *"Every book is different and you never know where things are going to go," Neggers said. "When you write a book you hope people will like it and is well received by the public."*

"One really isn't better than the other," Neggers said on which method is more effective. "It's really about the results and your personal creative process."

Writing books has almost become a family event for Neggers, as she relies on the advice and assistance of her family. "Zach has been helpful in the technical elements. I'll often send him the preliminary artwork for the cover. I don't have that critical eye, so I take his opinion very seriously."

Neggers described the pressures and set-backs of the publishing business and the various challenges writers face. Since the early 1990's, an enormous change in book distribution allowed for large corporations to buy out smaller independent bookstores which were known for caring the works of lesser known writers.

Neggers also explained how the use of computers and advanced technology has played an important role in the decrease in book distribution.

"People in the publishing industry love books and want them to be sold everywhere. They are committed to books, however they also want to make a profit. If books aren't selling, that space could go towards something else," she said.

Neggers also explained the role an agent plays in a writer's career. Most writers have agents and the agents are paid 15 percent industry standard. The agents play a vital role as they negotiate and advocate on behalf of the writer and create a contract with the publishing house. The publishing house takes a gamble on how much revenue the book will bring in, how many copies to produce, and where to distribute, however the writer still gets paid by their contact regardless of the success of the book.

"I've been affected in a positive way by the publishing industry, however I know of writers who haven't been," she said. "A good agent is so important because the terms of a contract can last a long time."

Jennifer Maler, Photo Credit

Carla Neggers, a mystery writer, visited the LSC campus Monday. In her career, Neggers has written over 50 books.

LSC Calender of Events

March 23:
Insomnia Bowl- Midnight to 6:00 a.m. First bus leaves campus at 11:45 p.m.

March 24:
Rugby Snowbowl, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. on the Rugby field, both men and women's teams will be participating.
15th Annual NEK Science Fair, organized by Sigma Zeta and AMS
Stannard Gym from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturday, March 24.

March 28:
LSC 's 2nd Speed Networking Event
From 1:00-2:00 p.m. in the Burke Mountain Room.
Spend 1 hour and talk with 10 professionals representatives finding out what employers are looking for in future employees. Every 5 minutes a bell will ring and you'll move on to the next professional to ask questions or seek advice. You can even bring your resumé to be critiqued. Questions? Contact Career Services at 626-6221.

March 30:
Deadline for 2007 on-campus housing deposit of $200. Deposit Payable at the Student Services center by cash, check or credit card. Deposits are non-refundable after May 1, 2006

April 14:
Spring Day- Sumo wrestling, laser tag, air brush tattoos. Starting at 12:00 all events are free.

Moments Like This: Less than Brillant

By TRISH PENNYPACKER
CRITIC COLUMNIST

Benjamin Franklin was a brilliant man, but I don't think that Daylight Saving Time was one of his brilliant ideas. Originally developed to increase the amount of daylight that was available to working people, and to decrease energy costs as a "convenience for commerce," Daylight-Saving, or Shifting, as it correctly suggests, has been met with controversy, much like the controversy I am experiencing as my children and I adapt to the time shift.

To say that children need more daylight as they are commuting to and from school is like saying that the parents, the bus drivers and the teachers are all incapable of keeping them safe. What about the kids leaving for daycare in the early morning hours, and those that arrive home well after dark? Society moves beyond the eight-to-five time frame that Shifting might benefit.

As everyone knows, the government decided that it would be beneficial to shift time earlier this spring in an attempt to save more energy. They claim that we spend one percent less energy a day by shifting an hour of daylight. I want to laugh. Do they really think that we all rise and go to bed at the same time? Don't they take into consideration that the decrease in energy consumption might be because the weather is warmer and more people are spending time outdoors and away from their homes? The government also claims that Shifting saves the United States 300,000 barrels of oil a year. Is this how they justify disrupting our sleep habits, by taking our focus away from the oil that they are burning as they import and deport cargo, and move U.S. battle ships and submarines?

I can't speak for every American, but I know that I am not saving electricity when I am forced to wake in the night to my daughter singing, Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star for the hundredth time. She has been so tired from waking up an hour early (and she certainly doesn't fall asleep earlier in the evening) that she sleeps an hour longer during her naptime at daycare. This refreshes her enough to make my evenings miserable, and after the umpteenth time of trying to sooth her to sleep, she finally surrenders. But by then I am wide awake. Getting out of bed, I turn on a light so I don't trip over the dog or a pile of Legos; I turn on the stove, heat up a cup of tea, boot up my computer, set my CD player to shuffle and listen to Bob Dylan until my eyes feel heavy once more. I would imagine that I am not the only parent who goes through this kind of ritual as I try to adjust myself and my children to the time change.

To make matters worse, we have to go through this not once, but twice a year. This year, in an attempt to reduce the hazards for trick-or-treaters, the shift will not go into effect until the first Sunday in November. I'm thinking that this adjustment will just add to the controversy over Halloween, but who am I to say anything? In the Northeast Kingdom, by the time the kids are off the bus and into their costumes, dusk is upon us, regardless of the time change, and no one can possibly tell me that they are adding an hour to my daylight hours when in the winter months there are no hours of daylight to be added, only an extra hour that will have passed unnoticed as I have bustled through my day.

If we could leave Daylight Saving on the spring format, the nation would function just as smoothly. We would have plenty of daylight in the warmer months, and in the winter months, those shuffling home from work at five

o'clock might be lucky enough to enjoy the daylight for a half an hour. Maybe that half hour of evening light might be enough light to cure the depression associated with Seasonal Affective Disorder. It's just a thought.

The way I see it, Daylight-Saving is nothing but a rooster call from the government telling us when to rise and shine and when to tuck ourselves in for the night. It does nothing to boost our proficiency, and it demeans our intelligence. If you want more daylight, get out of bed earlier; if you are worried about safety, pay more attention; if energy usage is a concern, do your part to cut back on the energy you expend. Maybe if everybody took responsibility for themselves we wouldn't have to let the government tell us when our day begins.

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Help Wanted:

The Critic is looking for people to fill the following positions:

Reporters
Photographers
Graphic Designers
Advertisers

Please contact Mary Wheeler at mary.wheeler@lyndonstate.edu.

Changes in CAB events becoming an inconvenience to students

Letter to the Editor:

On Wednesday, March 14, I waited all day to see the movie of the week: "*Happy Feet*." I live about 20 to 30 minutes off campus and since I had a lot to do that day, I pretty much arranged my day around driving back later during the very foggy night to see the movie. I had wanted to see it for quite a while and got to the college in plenty of time - only to end up displeased with the way the movie was shown; not for the first time either.

An African themed cultural event was ending in the theater where "*Happy Feet*" was to be shown, and it ran overtime. At about 9:05 p.m. my friend, who had left to get food, ran back to me telling me the movie had suddenly been started in the student lounge. I guess it wasn't worth their while to check the theater first to see if other viewers had gotten the message.

There were other confused movie-goers in the auditorium that seemed lost in the switch-up and several of them left, looking very disappointed that they had missed the movie.

I would think that since the movie location was changed there would be some sort of notice telling people about the change in venue.

What followed was a wonderfully animated movie on a big screen TV. However the lights were not turned down, which caused a glare, there was very limited seating, and constant noise from the snack bar and students traveling through made me unable to hear a lot of the dialogue. All of this could have been avoided by waiting five or ten minutes for the event in the theater to empty out but I guess impatience won out.

The overall experience wasn't made much better by the students sitting in front of us who were having a loud conversation, rudely disrupting several of the students trying to watch the movie. After a few of them left the remaining two continued to talk and then halfway through the movie, left. It appeared they had only sat at the table to eat and do homework, so I ask, why did they lack the courtesy to at least let others enjoy the film? No CAB members seemed to hang around to help keep the general talking down either.

This is not the first time I have been let down by CAB events. I have driven in only to find them suddenly cancelled or changed and only gotten a "Too bad" response when I said something about it. I don't pay my activities fee to be let down and shrugged off when I attend an event. On-campus students can turn right around and go back to their rooms, but commuters often have a drive ahead of them.

Kathy Harrington
LSC Junior

Have an opinion? Write to The Critic

Letter Policy:

The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must be signed and include the author's phone number and address. The Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:

The Critic
LSC Box #7951
Lyndonville, Vt. 05851

A week spent in the South at U. Miss

By JESSICA MILLHISER
CRITIC STAFF

The glow of lights in the city of Memphis looked like burning embers among the ashes of a fire. I glanced out of my tiny airplane window, eager to finally touch ground.

I was going to visit my friend, Kelyn, who goes to school at Ole Miss. I had never been to the "dirty" south, as some like to call it, before and was eager to see what the week would bring. I had flown down with a friend of ours, Danielle, and though she was a few years younger, she was a lot of fun.

We had a late arrival and our first night was spent relaxing and organizing. We got to meet Kelyn's two female roommates and they were very nice and easy to talk to.

The next day was beautiful. The weather was absolutely amazing, it was 72 degrees and sunny. I was in love. Danielle and I got up late and lounged around the apartment while waiting for Kelyn to get back from student teaching. My other friend from home, Jordan, also goes to Ole Miss and he took us out to lunch. We went to this place called Obey's. Apparently they still call soda, 'pop'.

Though Jordan is originally from Vermont, he has definitely picked up some of that southern hospitality. I couldn't walk through a door without him getting their first to hold it open; and he is so polite now, I was astonished.

That night Kelyn and her roommate had an intramural game of basketball and Danielle and I wanted to go watch. We rode over to their gym complex and it was huge. I walked into the building and up a flight of stairs where someone was waiting to swipe a student ID card. To the left I saw an exercise room with all sorts of aerobic and weight machines. I also noticed mirrors in the back of the room as well. We walked into the gym and there were four separate gyms divided by a red mesh net. The gyms were about the size of our own Rita Bole gym.

Jessica Millhiser, Critic Staff

The Concerto statue made in 2003 is one of the attractions on the University of Mississippi's campus.

Jessica Millhiser, Critic Staff

University of Mississippi welcomes visitors, students, and faculty to campus.

Wednesday was spent walking around campus and taking loads of pictures. It was another beautiful day and Danielle and I were walking around in shorts and a tee-shirt. We walked up past the softball field, which had amazing color because the dirt down there is red and it was nicely accented by the green of the outfield. We went and saw the library, the student center, the business, accounting and education buildings. We walked by the theater where there was a nice looking statue of a man playing a cello and a woman playing a violin. We also saw lots of fraternity and sorority houses; those are huge in the south.

One thing I noticed was that all the buildings had great architectural design. They were all made out of brick and many had pillars standing in front making them look intimidating. Also, the walkways were made out of brick as well. It had a nice, clean look to it.

As I looked around at the people going to and from classes, I noticed a lot of diversity. It was sort of strange to me to see this much diversity in one area when I come from Vermont where there is a bare minimum of diversity. It was odd to me though, because even though the diversity was great, everyone was still clumped together according to their own race. There was hardly any mixing at all. I guess I had expected that since I was in an area more diverse, that everyone would just mix together and there wouldn't be much division; this was clearly not the case.

Our last night there we stayed in and had a girls night. We giggled, we danced and we gossiped.

Flying home the next day, I reflected on my week in Mississippi and realized that I would have very much enjoyed being at a bigger school with more diversity, more social interaction and more opportunities. LSC obviously has its perks, but it's hard to compare them to a place far larger than here.

Looking to Quit Smoking??

FREE Smoking Cessation Classes
4:00-6:00 – Vail 226
(Vail Conference Room)
March 14, 21, 28 & April 11, 18, 25.

Tests prove water is safe on LSC campus

Tests found normal levels of nitrates and phosphates in drinking fountains, toilets, and ice despensers

By KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
MANAGING EDITOR

An informal water quality test showed that the water coming out of the fountains and ice dispensers at LSC is safe to drink.

Samples of water were taken from the drinking fountain near the main entrance on the third floor of Vail and the ice dispenser in the Stevens Dining Hall. A third sample was taken from a toilet in the science wing for comparison.

The first round of tests showed normal levels of nitrates and phosphates in all three samples. The fountain and toilet contained higher levels of phosphates, likely due to the chemicals put into them to keep them clean.

When it came time to test the samples for coliform bacteria, the initial results were surprising. The toilet and fountain tested negative while the water obtained from the ice dispenser in Stevens Dining Hall tested positive for human coliform bacteria.

A second test was done last Tuesday on the dining hall water. The second test came back negative for the bacteria indicating that there was an error. The ice made in the dining hall is safe to ingest.

The testing was done at the behest of the Critic by Lab Technician Theresa Conant. The LSC Science Department has a water quality lab which such tests can be conducted, normally for classes.

To test the water, a device called a colorimeter is used. The one used in these tests was an $800 HACH 700 and the way it works is relatively simple, Conant said.

A chemical is added to the water sample and then placed in the device. A certain wavelength of light is passed through the water sample. The chemical will react with whatever substance is being tested for, causing it to block that certain wavelength. If what is being tested for is present, it will be visible, Conant said.

Keith Whitcomb Jr, Managing Editor

LSC Lab Technician, Theresa Conant, conducts water tests in a classroom lab.

Arrival of new banners mark future centennial celebrations

By DANIELLE SYKES
CRITIC STAFF

The new banners decorating campus light posts are the first step Lyndon State College is taking towards a centennial celebration Bob Whittaker, dean of Institutional Advancement, said.

The banners cost the school $9,000, Whittaker said. The hardware is included in that price and will not have to be replaced often. The banners should last at least 18 months, he said.

The project stemmed from an interest among "administration to have banners around campus," Whittaker said.

"Reasons to be proud" are printed on the banners. Alumni, faculty, staff and students contributed the reasons, Whittaker said.

"Increasing pride on campus" is the goal, Whittaker said. The school is also attempting to "create a more attractive and modern look on campus."

The college has more ideas about improving the appearance of the campus that will be implemented before the 100 year anniversary, Whittaker said.

Those who would like to contribute "reasons to be proud" can post them on the message board found in the Alumni/Friends section of the college's Web site.

Of the 133 posts on campus, 120 now sport these banners. The school plans to add more posts with banners after completing campus renovations.

Marilou Kozak, makes the most out of her LSC experience

By SARAH DONAGHY
CRITIC STAFF

"I'd like to go back [to the Philippines] again someday and I'd like to take my husband too, he's never been," Marilou Kozak, a non-traditional student at LSC said. She was born in the Philippines and hasn't been back on her native soil since her last trip there eleven years ago.

Kozak grew up in Angeles City, in the Province of Pampanga. Education is something she sees as very important and tries to impress its necessity on her children as much as possible.

"[In the Philippines the] only way you get an education is if your parents are well-to-do. You know if they're well-to-do they've had a college education anyhow; it's a cycle. If you're poor you don't get scholarships. You're just out of luck." Kozak said.

Many of the jobs in the area she grew up in were for military officers. That was considered to be a particularly good job because of the steady work and benefits that it provided without the expense of a college education.

Because the schools she attended when she was a child were set up by the military the curriculum was largely American. The education she received was much like that of an American student and so was centered on the history and government of the United States.

"I do feel I missed out," Kozak said. "I didn't really think about it when I was younger. [Now] I'm always curious about the history and what kind of government we really have."

Marilou and five of her six siblings moved to New Mexico when her mother married a man who worked on Holloman Air Force Base. Her oldest brother stayed in the Philippines and has never visited America. Because of the laws about moving to the US, especially if you are over twenty-one and married as her brother is, it becomes very difficult to get here but, because of the economic situations, many people want to.

"It's like once you get a job, you're in!" Kozak said. "That's why a lot of people are dying to come up here, because there are a lot of opportunities [to find work]."

Kozak is working hard at getting a Human Services degree to make the most out of the opportunities she now has.

"I always liked to work with children," she said, recalling the work she did in the schools when her son and daughter were younger. "Everything is for children to me."

Kozak encourages her children to get the most they can out of their educations. Her son Dan goes to the University of Arizona and her daughter Sarah goes to St Johnsbury Academy. She hopes the educations they will get in college will be like her own, one of both scholastic and personal growth.

Sarah Donaghy, Critic Staff

Marilou Kozack, a non-traditional student originally from the Philippines, believes that education is important.

Sudoku

Answers from last week

9	5	3	1	7	2	6	4	8
8	7	1	4	9	6	2	5	3
4	6	2	5	8	3	7	1	9
5	3	4	2	6	9	8	7	1
2	1	7	3	5	8	9	6	4
6	9	8	7	4	1	3	2	5
7	8	9	6	1	4	5	3	2
3	4	5	9	2	7	1	8	6
1	2	6	8	3	5	4	9	7

HOW TO PLAY- The ojective of the game is to fill all the blank squares in a game with the correct numbers. There are three rules to follow in a 9 by 9 square Sudoku game:

* Every row of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order
* Every column of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order
* Every 3 by 3 subsection of the 9 by 9 square must include all digits 1 through 9

3				5				
6	8			2			1	7
	9	4	7	1				6
4		1					9	
		9	1	8	3	4		
	6					7		1
1				3	6	5	4	
9	4			7			2	3
				4				9

Looking for a summer class?

The NEWARK HAND CREW, a group of your fellow college students, is holding the WILDLAND FIREFIGHTER S130/S190. Learn basic firefighting skills, fire weather observations, incident command management, and team building skills.

This class will benefit Recreation majors, GIS students, Meteorology majors, Business students, or anybody that wishes to learn about emergency response and helping our nation during times of need.

Classes will be the week of Spring Break at the Lyndonville Fire and Police Complex, located on Route 5 in Lyndonville on Saturday, March 31; Sunday, April 1; Friday, April 6; and Saturday, April 7 at 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

On-campus housing can be provided.

For more information and sign up, please contact Christopher Franek at 802-626-6385 or campus ext. 6385 or email Christopher.Franek@lsc.vsc.edu.

Horoscopes

Pisces (Feb 19-Mar 20) You have the tendency to want to please others. Stop doing it. It will just hurt you in the long run, you need to remember to do things that make you happy, not other people.

Aries (Mar 21-Apr 19) You have been hitting the bar far to much lately and making a dent in your wallet. It's time to let up on the drinking and focus on those friends around you who care.

Taurus (Apr 20-May 20) Don't get stuck in a rut. Spring will soon be here, and what better time to try something new and exciting. You'll thank yourself in the end.

Gemini (May 21-Jun 21) Stop trying to rush a relationship. You always fall for people far too fast. Take the extra time to get to know that person before officially asking them out.

Cancer (Jun 22-Jul 22) You have been driving people crazy with your gossiping and immature ways. Give your friends their much needed space and time away from you.

Leo (Jul 23-Aug 22) You are a prude this month. Enough said.

Virgo (Aug 23-Sept 22) Your flirtatious ways are starting to rub people the wrong way. Try to realize your actions and those you are hurting.

Libra (Sept 23-Oct 22) Be an original. For once do your own thing and don't follow the crowd. Who knows you could be the next big trendsetter.

Scorpio (Oct 23-Nov 21) Your laid-back approach works for some things but not all, especially relationships. Spending too much time with your own buddies could add distance and tension between you.

Sagittarius (Nov 22-Dec 21) Let your natural beauty show. You don't need fancy clothes or a lot of make-up to make people stop and take notice.

Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 19) You expect everything to revolve around you. However, that's not the way the world works. Stop placing yourself at a "I'm better than you," place and you will be much better off.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 18) Your constant work habits are putting a strain on your already difficult relationship. Make more of an effort to be with that person or expect a messy break-up.

Forecast Discussion
STUDENT METEOROLOGIST: Scott Jaeger

The latest forecast for Northeast Vermont including Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans counties.

In the Northeast Kingdom, spring has officially arrived as unseasonably warm and record breaking temperatures influence the area. On Thursday, high temperatures reached in the middle to upper 50s which is 10 to 15 degrees above average. For Thursday night, a cold front will move through our area from our west producing rain heavy at times early with possibly a rumble of thunder or two then tapering off to scattered showers. On Friday, as the low pressure system moves away from our area, we'll see clearing skies just in time for the weekend as temperatures continue to stay warm for this time of year. A storm system will pass to our south on Saturday night, which could bring a threat of a snow shower into the area and then begin to clear out for the remainder of our weekend. Make sure you take advantage of this warm weather and spend time outdoors as high temperatures will reach into the upper 40s to lower 50s and a mix of sun and clouds for the majority of the weekend.

Friday Night
Low: 18 to 25 F
High: - F
Clear skies with west winds at 5-10 mph becoming calm.

Saturday Afternoon
Partly Cloudy
Low: - F
High: 41 to 48 F A mix of sun and clouds with light northerly winds.

Saturday Night
Mostly Cloudy
Low: 22 to 29 F
High: - F
Mostly cloudy skies with a snow shower possible during the night. Little or no snowfall accumulation expected.

For more weather forecasts, visit www.lyndonstate.edu

Students attend College Media Advisers convention in NYC

By ANDREW R. KOCH
CRITIC STAFF

At the end of last week, I traveled down to New York City to attend the College Media Adviser's spring convention at the Roosevelt Hotel in Manhattan. Along with Lyndon State's American Women in Radio and Television chapter, we went to several presentations last Thursday and Friday that dealt with issues related to the fields of newspaper writing, as well as audio and visual media. The purpose of these presentations was to make us better journalists.

I left on Wednesday with Dan Williams, our adviser. We drove down to White River Junction to catch the Vermonter, a daily Amtrak train that travels from St. Albans all the way to Washington, D.C. that includes stops in southern Vermont and New Hampshire, western Massachusetts, central and southern Connecticut, and several stops in the New York Tri-State area. We arrived at the hotel by taxi Wednesday night after an exhausting, seven and a half hour train trip to Penn Station.

The convention began on Thursday with registration for students and advisers. There were students and advisers representing schools from across the country, not just the Northeast. Some students, faculty and presenters came from as far away as California and Idaho to attend this convention. The reason I attended this convention was so *The Critic* could be entered into the newspaper category of "The Apple Awards." A.W.R.T. went to enter a *News 7* show from last semester into the T.V. category of the contest. Unfortunately, neither club won an award in our respective categories.

As the sports editor and a diehard sports enthusiast, it would've been a pretty good bet that I attended several presentations geared towards sports writing, which I did. The first presentation I went to was about sports photography. The presenter was David Russell, a freelance photographer who's worked for numerous media outlets. He kept his presentation light and humorous with some good one-liners, in addition to having some good tips for getting the best action shots. One key piece of advice he gave was something he called the 7 P's: "Proper Prior Planning Prevents Piss-Poor Performance."

This means prepare for everything and anything that might happen at the event you're covering before you leave. Pack a couple extra batteries and memory cards for your camera. Pack a cover for the camera if the forecast calls for inclement weather. Be ready for anything. Russell also stressed the importance of "keeping your head in the game." By this, he means keep an eye on what's happening in the game, so you won't get run over by a player hustling to get to the ball, get hit by a scorching foul ball or occasional wayward bat, or a puck that ends up in the seats, as well as knowing what will happen next. Another major piece of advice he gave was "Cover your ass first, be creative second." This means be prepared and take care of the basics first, then you can get creative with your pictures.

As writers, an important issue we face is getting out our message and raising our profile amongst the general student and faculty population. The staff at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles did this in a big way over the last few years by hosting First Amendment Week education events on campus. What started as a simple lunch time discussion has now grown into a week-long event where the staff has been able to garner such top-flight speakers as Ann Coulter, James Carville and Arianna Huffington. Student editor Natalie Nordseth explained how to go about hosting such an event, covering everything from knowing how your college's bureaucracy works, to getting the money to put on your events, such as hosting speakers, to how to accommodate your guest speakers, regardless of how crazy their demands might be. Nordseth said that a big key to putting on a successful First Amendment Week is to apply for funds and grants as soon as possible, which is why it's so important to know how the bureaucracy works (as much as we all might hate it).

An example of a successful First Amendment event she cited was from Florida Atlantic University, which put on an event called "Food for Freedom." Students temporarily signed away their First Amendment rights in exchange for free food from local eateries. Over 350 students were willing to sign away their rights for free grub (oh, the things we'll do to get free food). Nordseth said to start your event small and gradually build it up.

The final presentation I went to on Thursday was given by Eric Adelson, a senior writer for ESPN The Magazine. Adelson says that when writing a story about an athlete, try to find something about this person that people can relate to. Make the stories relate to life in general. Do your readers a public service by humanizing the athletes. Some examples he gave included the athletes who overcame troubles either in their personal or family lives, or with substance abuse.

A key to writing these stories, Adelson said, is to find the turning point in the athlete's life, just like finding the turning point when writing about a game. One way Adelson suggested to go about this is to go to the athlete's relatives or longtime childhood friends to get some good stories about the person. *Then* you can go to him or her with that good story and ask them to elaborate on it. If the athlete you're interviewing happens to be religious, include God as a character in your story. Describe what the person's relationship is with the Almighty. Finally, Adelson says that the best stories come from the heart.

Thursday night, we attended an advance screening of "Perfect Stranger" at the AMC Empire Theater on 42nd Street. "Perfect Stranger" stars Halle Berry as a reporter, Giovanni Ribisi as a reporter/perverted computer whiz, and Bruce Willis as the head of the biggest ad agency in New York. The movie was filmed on location in Manhattan, the first such film since 9/11. Rowina (Berry) character is going after Harrison Hill (Willis) in attempt to nail him for the murder of her best friend Geena (Clea Lewis). Miles (Ribisi) gets Rowina a fake screen name and identity so she can infiltrate h2a, Hill's ad agency, to see what she can dig up. Eventually, Hill discovers Rowina's true identity, and then is found guilty of Geena's murder. The conclusion this movie is one of the most bizarre endings I've ever seen.

Even if you go to New York for a school or business-related function, you still have to play tourist at some point. I got up early Friday morning to walk down to Rockefeller Center and join a few A.W.R.T. members outside the "Today Show" set. Yes, I was one of the crazy people standing out in the cold and snow outside Studio 1A trying to get on national TV. Whether or not I actually got on TV or not, I wasn't sure, because I was screened by a bunch of people standing in front of me. I only stayed for a couple hours because there were still a couple of presentations I wanted to attend back at the hotel. One was about covering crime on faith-based campuses (an issue I find very fascinating), and another was about a private college in Illinois whose newspaper has ceased publication because the administration decided the newspaper wasn't a public forum and therefore could be subjected to censorship by prior review (editing the content of the newspaper to make it satisfactory to the administration before publication). The newspaper ceased publication after the Supreme Court refused to hear its case.

After attending this lecture, Dan and I decided to take the subway from Grand Central Station to Ground Zero. It's been over five years since the World Trade Center Fell, and the pit where the towers once stood is now a giant construction site, with work underway to build the new Freedom Towers. It's just mind-numbing to think that what's now a construction site is also the very spot where three thousand people died in the worst terrorist attack ever on American soil. Walking in the financial district fighting through wind-blown sleet, however, made the trip just brutal, as I was once again reminded how much it stings when ice pellets hit you in the face.

For dinner that night, Dan and I walked over to the Hard Rock Café in Times Square. We only decided to go there after finding out that it would be a 45-minute wait to get a table at the ESPN Zone. The Hard Rock in Times Square is huge, with three levels of seating in addition to all their unique memorabilia from the greatest rock stars of all time, ranging from The Rat Pack and The Beatles to Nine Inch Nails and Nirvana. We followed the St. Patrick's Day snowstorm north on Saturday as we rode the train back to White River Junction. This was a very memorable experience for me, and it's something that I'm considering doing again next year.

LSC raises money for Special Olympics

By JORDAN ROYER
CRITIC STAFF

Saturday's storm left most people spinning in their driveways. Others spent the snowy day spinning in another sense, on bicycles, at the Sheraton Hotel and Conference Center in Burlington for the seventh annual six hour spinning marathon to raise money for the Special Olympics

Ten members of the LSC community were slated to participate in the fundraiser, but due to the weather only seven were able to make it to Burlington. The LSC team was made up of Exercise Science majors Christine Cyr, John Shanks, Laura Bailey, Brynna Considine, Eric Gagne, and Professor Anthony Sgherza along with Meteorology majors Jim Politis, Kathryn Mozer, Bryan Shaw and Dr. Nolan Atkins.

The Exercise Science group raised over $500 in support of the Special Olympics with each participant paying $25.

"It was real tough," Shanks said, "But it was a nice thing to do."

Cyr was one of the participants unable to make the event but was still happy with her contributions to the Special Olympics. "It felt rewarding earning money for a good cause," Cyr said.

Each individual registered by paying a $25 fee and then did fundraising. The Exercise Science group raised over $500 in support of the Special Olympics.

"The energy in the room was amazing," Bailey said. "They had a great mix of music to keep the beat going."

Snacks and water were distributed throughout the event by Special Olympics members.

Along with spinning, the participants were also entered in a raffle and were treated to a spaghetti dinner and Ben and Jerry's ice cream. The three members representing Exercise Science mopped up in the raffle, taking home three prizes.

Shanks won two tickets to any Red Sox game in April, including transportation. Considine won a gift certificate for 50 percent off dinner for up to six people at Ristorante Italiano in Burlington, while Bailey won two tickets to a Trace Adkins concert.

UVM Cats lose American East Title to Great Danes

By AUSTIN DANFORTH
EDITOR OF UVM CYNIC

After such an electric, heart pounding game the scoreboard simply could not harness the emotion of this 60-59 America East championship game.

It was one that ended in anticlimactic fashion as the Cats had the ball for the last 33 seconds with a chance to win, but failed to get off a single shot.

The Great Danes went home with an NCAA tournament bid locked up for the second year in a row, while the Catamounts were left runners-up at the hands of the Danes for the second straight year.

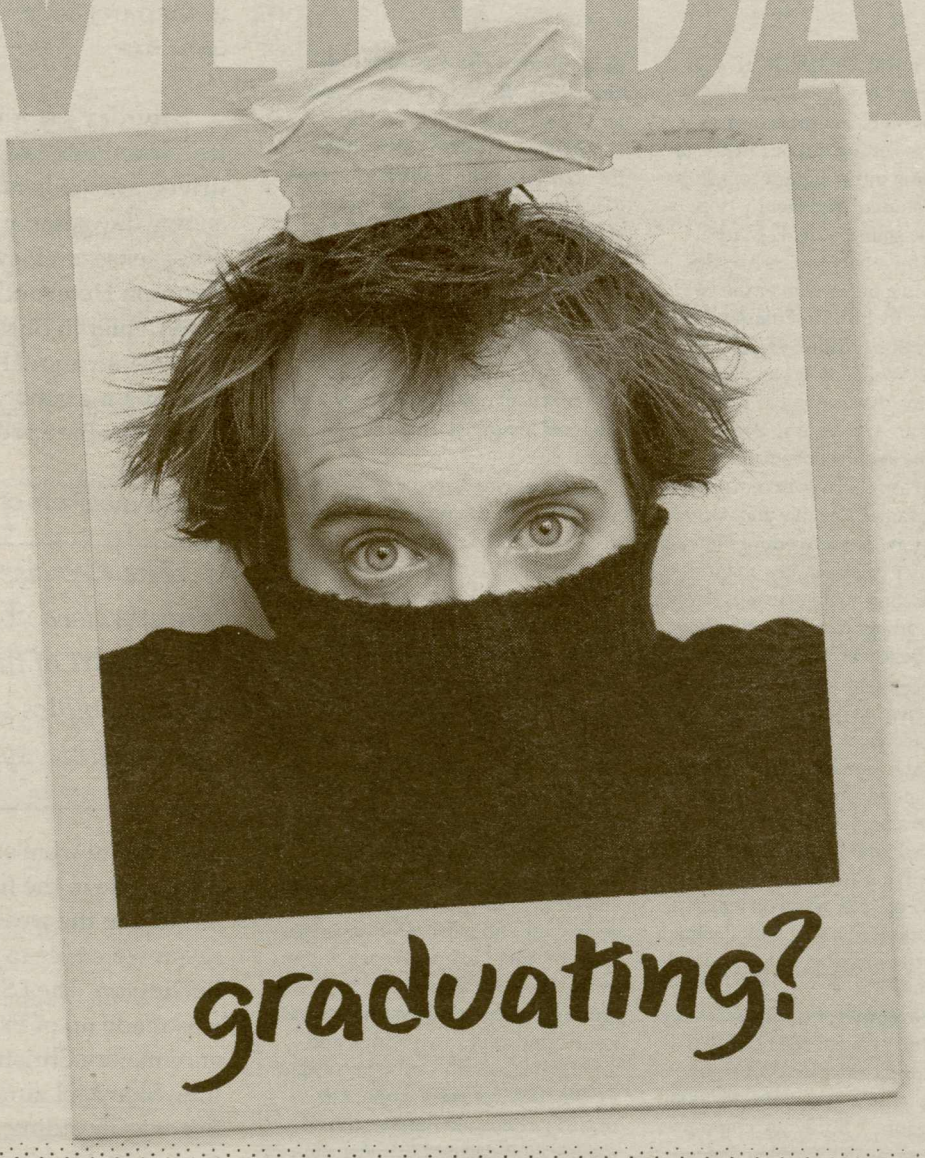
Uncharacteristically, Vermont was outrebounded by their opponent for the first time in a long time. Albany held a 33-32 edge on the glass. Chris Holm (12.2 rebounds per game), the Cats' leader on the boards, sprained his ankle on the tip off and was left far less effective for the remainder of the game, finishing with only four boards.

Freshman Marqus Blakely led UVM with 10 points on the day and fifth year senior Martin Klimes, in his last home game, added nine points to go along with a team high seven rebounds.

Early on it was Blakely's high wire act that got the fans into the game. The loudest point in the game came with just over eight minutes left in the first half.

Regardless of the highlights from the season and the game, the loss will leave a bitter taste in the Cats' mouths for a long time to-come.

SEVEN DAYS



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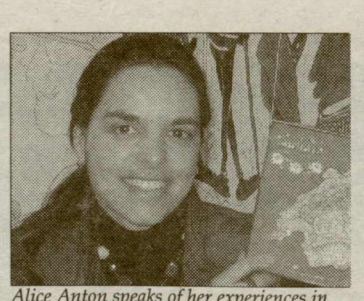

Alice Anton speaks of her experiences in the United States

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Serving the student voice of the Northeast Kingdom

Sports Snapshots: LSC Rugby Team

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What's Inside

Lyndon Review:

Every year, students put together a collection of stories, poems, artwork and photography. Enjoy this special insert.

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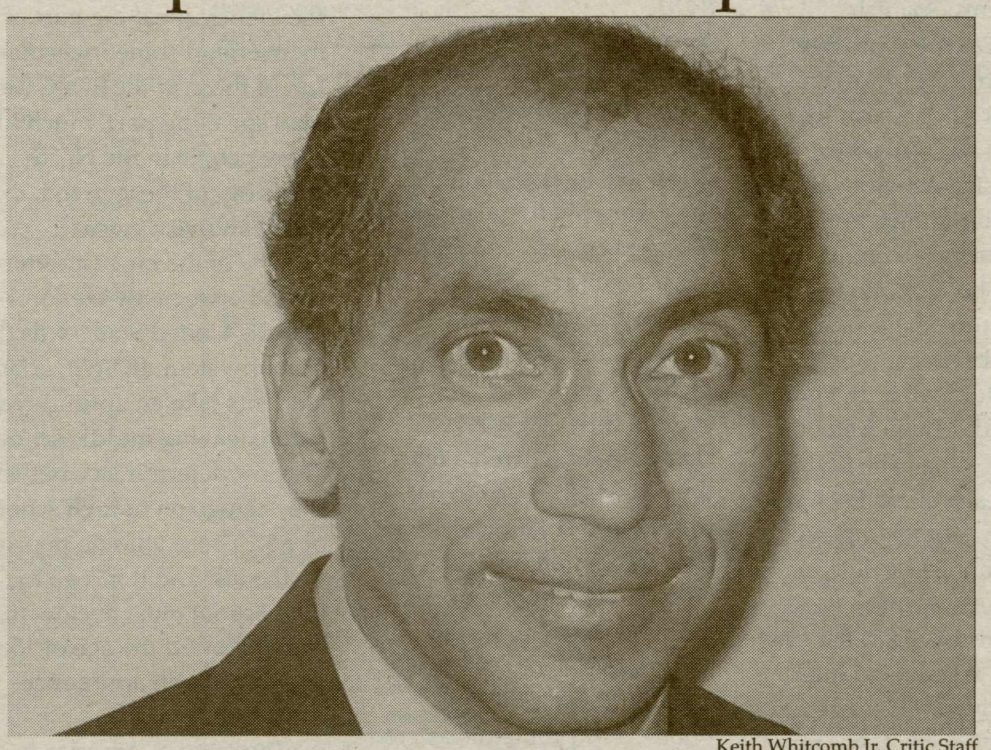
Iranian nuclear proliferation explained

Dr. Gawdat Bahgat, professor at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania spoke on nuclear activities in Iran

BY CALEB BYERLY
CRITIC STAFF



Keith Whitcomb Jr, Critic Staff

Dr. Gawdat Bahgat, discussed the diplomatic relations between the United States and Iran.

Iran won't be seeking to destroy America with its aims of obtaining nuclear energy for "peaceful purposes".

At least that's the conclusion Dr. Gawdat Bahgat came to LSC to lecture and explain the possible rationales behind the mounting tensions between the American government and the Iranian president's desire to produce nuclear energy.

Bahgat is a political sciences professor as well as the director of the Center for Middle East Studies at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He has also advised the United States government about possible diplomatic measures the US could take towards Iran.

"Iran doesn't have the bomb." Bahgat said, referring to a nuclear weapon.

After highlighting the historical diplomatic relations America and Iran have had since the end of the second word war, Bahgat discussed potential reasons Iran could be interested in producing nuclear weapons.

"Nuclear weapons are expensive and take a lot of commitment to produce." Bahgat said.

By having a nuclear bomb, Iran could use the threat of force to prevent any enemies (such as the US) from attacking it, Bahgat explained. After the invasion of Iraq, and the inclusion of Iran into the "Axis of Evil" by the Bush administration, Iran has developed a very serious security concern about the US.

"The Iranian government is afraid of 'regime change' from the United States." Bahgat said.

Bahgat also discussed the possible jealousies the Iranian government might have for Israel's possible possession of nuclear weapons, despite Israel's official policy of neither confirming nor denying possession.

Iran sees it as racism; Israelis are civilized enough to have them, but Iranians are not." Bahgat said.

Bahgat disregarded the argument of Iran potentially selling nuclear weapons to terrorist organizations such as Hezbollah or al-Qaeda.

"Nuclear weapons have a return address." Bahgat said. "There would be punishments for Iran from the international community."

Citing America's military might, Baghat doubted that Iran would willfully instigate a war.

"Iran is not matched to the US in any sense." Baghat said. "You would not start a fight if, in advance, you know you would lose."

After the lecture, Baghat opened the floor to the audience for a question and answer period. Many of the questions were from middle aged people tentative to believe the peaceful intentions of Iran's nuclear desires. Bahgat did his best to explain the Iranian position, although some individual's remained very doubtful.

Tips and suggestions on finding an apartment you'll love

By KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
MANAGING EDITOR

For those students who have nightmares of puffball-white walls and RAs during the summer time, the option of moving into an apartment may be their only hope.

Once the pros and cons have been considered and the decision to move into an apartment has been made, there are some steps to take, decisions to make and pitfalls to avoid in getting an apartment.

The first step is finding some roommates to help foot the bills. For Thomas Borck, junior English major, the cost of living in an apartment with about $750 a month in bills (rent, cable and electricity included) is split between him and his two roommates. The way Borck figures it, it's $4-500 a month cheaper than living in Rita Bole.

Step two is having the money to move in. Most landlords require new tenants to pay their first months rent, plus their last months along with a security deposit.

The security deposit is usually equal to one month's rent. Whenever a tenant breaks something in the apartment, the money for repairs comes out of the security deposit. When the tenant moves out, he or she gets the deposit back, minus whatever was taken out for repairs.

For Borck and his roommates, this all came to about $750 per person for the apartment they have now.

Once the ability to pay for a place is all set, the search can begin. Borck and his roommates had their own list of priorities when it came to looking for a place to live. First, it had to be close to campus. Second, it needed to be affordable. Thirdly, they needed "A place that wasn't a downright dirty spoon," Borck said.

It took about an month for Borck and crew to find a place they liked. "We rushed it. It was a really nice deal," Borck said of his new apartment in St. Johnsbury.

The actual hunt is was took the longest, Borck said. Driving around to see the places and scheduling meetings with landlords was time consuming. They went to look at nine different places but only entered three of them.

Rentnet.com has a few tips for picking out an apartment that won't be regretted later. Among them:

1. Check out apartments during the daytime. It's easier to see the true condition of the place when the sun is out.

2. Find out who the neighbors are. If they happen to be a bagpipe orchestra who can only find time to practice on Sunday nights, it might turn out to be a long semester.

3. Ask questions. How many electrical outlets are there? How much hot water is there and what's the water pressure like? Does the place retain heat well in the winter?

It might be a lot of work finding the right apartment, but the trouble is worth it. "Don't settle for something you don't like because you're likely going to be there for a while," Borck said.

The last step, aside from moving stuff in and assigning responsibilities is signing the lease and having the landlord do a credit check.

The credit check is the landlord's way of making sure his or her tenants can pay rent. Borck's landlord was happy with a bank statement instead of a credit check; the two amount to the same thing almost. Borck was also asked for three references: people saying he was on the level and could pay his rent on time.

Swiss born teacher gives insight on foreign viewpoints

By KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
MANAGING EDITOR

Imagine having to teach Spanish-speaking first graders French without knowing any Spanish.

That was the challenge LSC's Instructor of foreign languages Alice Anton had to face when she moved to Colombia from Switzerland in 1998. To communicate with her students she initially had to rely on hand motions and pointing until she learned the language better.

Anton almost didn't get the job at the Swiss school in Colombia. When she first applied to teach abroad she was rejected for not having experience and not being able to speak Spanish. Anton was also still in college at the time.

Anton asked to be interviewed anyway. Her future employer, for whatever reason, decided to hear her out. "They eventually decided I was a good candidate," Anton said.

Anton spent five years teaching in Colombia. "I was in a good situation financially," Anton said.

Anton's peers did not share her idea of a good time. While her other financially secure friends enjoyed living the high life, Anton enjoyed things like hiking in the mountains, riding in trucks with crates of chickens tied to the back over desolate back roads, and visiting exciting places.

Anton's first job in the United States was teaching French at an international school in Washington D.C. International schools often serve to educate the children of diplomats and other world travelers. That way the curriculum will be the same no matter where they go in the world.

"It was quite an adventure telling my family I was marrying an American," Anton said.

To get an apartment in D.C. Anton had to use English to communicate. In Switzerland, a country with four official languages (French, Swiss German, Italian and Romansh), Anton was taught to speak a little English in classes that occurred a few times a week. Much to her frustration, Anton had a hard time understanding English when it was spoken to her. Reading the ad for an apartment was easy and so was inquiring about it over the phone. The problem occurred when the other person spoke back. "It's difficult to speak like a baby again," Anton said.

Anton found a home in an all-female apartment complex referred to as the Convent by its male counterpart across the street. Anton's future husband, Kelly Rossiter, who also teaches at LSC, was living in the male complex. The two met when Rossiter returned a tiki torch he had stolen from the Convent.

Anton and Rossiter were married in 2004, one year after moving to the Lyndon area. Anton taught French at the Riverside High School as well as teaching it at LSC, although now she only teaches at LSC while attending graduate school for counseling at Johnson State.

Anton thought the United States was similar to Switzerland in many ways. Aside from the geography of Switzerland being similar to that of Vermont, attitudes towards people of different regions are the same. People in the French speaking part of Switzerland sometimes make fun of those in the Swiss German speaking part, much like a few people in the North make fun of those in the South and vice versa.

One of the biggest differences between Switzerland and the United States was the school system. In Switzerland, students take an aptitude test before leaving middle school. The test determines whether they can go on to high school or not. Those who do poorly on the test and don't go to high school must decide on a career around the age of 15 and take up an apprenticeship, Anton said.

The view of America in Switzerland isn't particularly flattering, Anton said. Anton's family would often ask her if she ate hamburgers all of the time and if it was possible to buy vegetables in America; their view of America coming from television shows like "Jerry Springer" and speeches by President George W. Bush. Most of what the media shows of America simply reinforces negative stereotypes: all Americans are fat and obsessed with plastic surgery.

"It was quite an adventure telling my family I was marrying an American," Anton said, although her family has come to like Rossiter since meeting him.

Anton is planning a trip to Italy this summer but has no definite plans to move in the future, although her love of travel certainly does not rule it out.

Keith Whitcomb Jr. Critic Staff

Alice Anton, a French professor at LSC, discusses the differences in United States and Switzerland school systems.

LSC Calender of Events

Earth Week

April 16:

Mark Synnott: Culture, Ecology, and Adventure in the Headwaters of the Amazon
Burke Mountain Room, April 16th, 4-5:30pm.
Mark has shared his adventures with a host of groups, including the American Alpine Club and colleges across the nation. This event is a collaborative effort from the Social Science, Natural Science, and Recreation Resource Departments at Lyndon State College.

April 17

Town Meeting, Topic: Being an Environmental Citizen
Theater Wing B, April 17th, 12:30-1:30pm
Students and the local community are invited for a discussion about what it means to be an environmental citizen, with a particular focus on this college's campus.

April 18

Tree Pledge
Theater Lobby, April 18th, 11am-2pm
The tree pledge is for people to write down what they would like to improve on for the year and how to help the environment. Your pledge will be written down on a cut out leaf and hung on a tree. Once you have made a pledge you are rewarded with organic food and surrounded by earthy music.

More events listed on http://lyndonstate.edu/sustain

RAMUNTO'S
BRICK OVEN PIZZA
A New York Pizza Family
1216 Railroad Street
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819
802 751-8500

2006-2007 – Vol. 1

The Lyndon Review

I SAW JESUS THE OTHER DAY

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.

He was hiding in the bushes next to the garage as I walked out of the house on my way to school. He was looking pretty good for his age but I guessed that was to be expected. I waved to him but he just sunk back behind the garage and looked upset that I had spotted him.

"Guess who I saw today?" my mother said when I got home later that afternoon.

"Who?" I asked.

"That nice Jesus fellow. He was creeping around out back by the pool."

"Oh yeah," I said. "I saw him this morning behind the rose bushes."

Later that night when I was doing my homework I yelped and nearly fell out of my chair. Jesus had his face pressed up against my bedroom window. He looked to be having trouble with not falling off the side of the house and I wondered how he had managed to climb up in the first place. I wanted to shoo him away, it was distracting to have Jesus stare at me though my window while I was doing my science homework, but I thought it would be rude. I settled for pulling the curtains over the window, which I guess was rude too, but I had to get my work done.

I kept seeing Jesus in odd places for the next few days. I'd see him at school through the window, mulling around out on the grass. In the library I'd see him hiding behind bookshelves. My friends would notice him too. "Isn't that Jesus?" they'd say. "I think it is," someone would add. I did my best to ignore him and keep walking when I caught him spying on me, but he wouldn't quit.

The last straw came Friday evening. I came home at about midnight after hanging around with Davy and Sarah. I have a bit of a crush on Sarah and as I laid there in bed thinking about her in those tight jeans she sometimes wore, I was interrupted by a sound near my closet. With my free hand I flicked on my reading lamp. There, on the floor next to an overturned sock hamper was Jesus. He had what looked to be a pair of night vision goggles and a clipboard. I was so embarrassed and shocked I turned the light off, rolled over and went to sleep.

The next morning I called the police and reported Jesus. I also filed for a restraining order. There are some lines that just don't get crossed.

ENLIGHTENED PARENTING

By Joshua James Gervais

Shoulder. Sight. Shoot. The deafening crack of the Winchester sounded and the world ground to a halt. I thought myself an educated man—an enlightened man; I was a good father—I might have been a piss poor husband, but I raised Shawn right—I thought I raised him right.

I remember Shawn's first date, a short mousey girl—not unattractive—he could have done better. She always looked at my shoes instead of my face and she was always fidgeting. I think they dated for over a year.

Things could have been different. If he hadn't been so secretive—practically daring me to find out what he was hiding. If he had just told me this wouldn't have happened.

When Shawn was younger everything was easier. I was his father; I always knew best and never faltered. Shawn practically worshipped me, but things changed—he changed, and I couldn't relate to him anymore. He stopped doing the things we once did together: baseball, fishing, and watching NASCAR on the TV. The divorce didn't help, but there was nothing I could do to keep that marriage together or to make her stay.

It seems like I'd been standing in that snow covered field for hours—lost in thought, lost in memory—less than a hundred yards away a young man slowly bled to death—screaming and sobbing for anyone who would hear him. I was a statue; the rifle still pointed to the space above the boy's dying form—my eyes fixed on the reddish brown stain slowly growing on the boy's white t-shirt and the matching snow that surrounded him.

Why did I allow this to happen to me? I didn't know that I had this sort of cold seeping rage inside of me. I thought I was enlightened—until I walked in on Shawn kissing that boy in the white t-shirt.

SOMETHING

By Jenn Salmon

She takes in the sweet smell of summer between her fingertips in the form of a new book. The pages sing to her melodically through the sounds of chickadees beside her on the park bench. They peck at nonsense next to their tiny clawed feet and chirp just enough to be noticed by passers by, while the sun begins to dip ever so slightly into the green sea of trees they swim in.

Her eyes follow the words pressed into each blossoming page, where visions of aging forests, beautiful castles and fairy tale romances fill her mind and the softness of the lines flow into her without hesitation.

A man is watching her, from behind the drooped branches of a weeping willow. He is almost out of sight, enough for her not to notice him right away. He admires every bit of her stature, slumped slightly on the park bench, her long brown hair falling partially in her face, completely encompassed in whatever she may be reading. The corners of her mouth rise up every so often and the expression in her changes from magenta to cyan and back again.

The chickadees flutter about, never leaving the warmth of the green painted park bench, while she turns each page with such tender grace, as if this book is the only life to her worth keeping, preserving so that no one may harm it. She glances up in the man's direction, but still does not notice his dark figure staring back at her. Instead she looks up as if in mid thought, a sort of contemplation of what she just read. Her eyes flow from one cloud to another and the birds beside her rise up into her vision.

I LOVE YOU

By Caleb Byerly

I lay with her,
our bodies are burning
with adoration
for one another.

With three words, a bomb
detonates inside me
and consumes us both.
Our vision is rocked by the blast.

The shockwave decimates
all other things.
Nuclear ashes rain down
and chill us to the bone

In the echoing silence that follows,
we absorb each other to become one
and rebuild the world
in our image.

PROTEST

By Joshua James Gervais

At some point, I'm not sure when, I pissed myself. It might have been that fleeting moment just before the violence started or when I got hit with the stun gun. Either way I ended up sitting in this holding cell filled with over stimulated protesters and smelling of urine. I can still see the dark patch in my jeans.

They've been talking since we got here: harassing the cops when they think they can get away with it, chatting about how the protest went, and boasting about their heroic deeds in the brawl that occurred after the cops came.

"This was the greatest moment of my life," one would be revolutionary said with a huge smile on his perfect tanned face—he hadn't been touched at all. I almost want to punch him just to make sure he got the full experience. Hours pasts, and they kept talking. People started to wonder how long they were going to have to stay here; they started to complain.

"I'm going to lose my reservation," a future executive said as he reflexively searched his pockets for his confiscated cell phone. I didn't have to worry about missing anything; I didn't make any plans for tonight. I didn't think I'd land in jail; I thought I'd be having a drink with a bunch of my newly minted friends—friends that shared my passion. I was going to meet some people that I could talk to honestly about the destructive path we're taking; instead I'm sitting alone in a crowded cell. They press against the walls to avoid me, and refuse to talk to me—not that I want to talk to those posers.

A woman is herded into the cell; she looks half dead—bruised and dirty—but not broken. She must have come from the infirmary; she has gauze wrapped around her head and her arm's in a sling. I think I saw her at the protest.

She sits down in the empty space beside me and smiles. "You smell like piss," she says. "I was scared too."

27 LINES FOR YOUR BIRTHDAY

By Nat Forcier

Hokusai had Mount Fuji
and the Frenchman had his own,
but it is surf
that puts snow in your imagination –
"the white against the blue" –
like the printmaker's Great Wave
from the land of the rising sun.

Winter sky,
the very color of your eyes,
embraces a cold horizon
and darkens for the pale moon's ascent.
"Be an apple,"
Cezanne seems to ask and she
obliges,
blushing pink like cherry blossoms.

As if the painter's request is overheard,
a red envelope
bursts upon the scene
bringing lavender of Provence,
raspberries on vanilla yogurt,
and hyacinth ahead of spring –
your thank you for the elderberry tea.

We sip,
lips warmed at the same moment –
on the other side of distance
that stands a Montagne Sainte-Victoire between us –
and share a moonlit kitchen
until the breaking of the lemon
meringue and orchid dawn.

BABY STEPS

By Jennifer Stewart

Well her feet look worn
and her heart's broke down
With ev'ryday smiles
nobody sees the frown

Making it to tommorro
every step along the way
waiting for what she's waited for
that one special day

When the door will ring with knocking
and the heart jumps to the chest
as she reaches for the handle
that makes history adrift

Finally with that moment
all she'd waited for to this day
fit into her footprints
with every step along the way

TRAVEL TO SEA

By Jenn Salmon

As peculiar as it may sound...
I is I and He is He
Wandering down this wretched
stream
Destined for the churning sea

Our boat tangles left,
our bodies fly right,
and the waves crash hard against
our plastic hull,
but we paddle,
we try!
And we make it—He and Me!

So I is I and He is He
And out we go to the glistening sea!

RED PEN

By Jenn Salmon
(a.k.a Wiat Waoa Faft)
(Wee-at--Way-oh-ah--Fahft)

What you say defines me is that
I'm a little bit crazy.
And yet,

This is only the beginning of me
Walking down that street of me
And listening to that beat of me
Of a true heart
And a true love
For the red keeps me paying attention
And the blue makes me stumble
For that singular sound of a
Thump.

WITHIN THE POST OFFICE

By Tricia Pennypacker

Almost by accident, Mr. Fred, a balding, bushy-browed, bearded stranger bumped into my life. I say "almost" because characters this dimensional never just bump into me unless prompted by Fate. I also say "bumped" because that is exactly what happened.

If I recall correctly, our chance encounter occurred on a breezy, mid-November morning. I, being a lazy, grouchy morning person, normally never set foot in public before 10a.m. He – as I later discovered – being the "people hater" that he so-called himself, was usually in and out of the Otter Creek post office by 7:45 each morning.

To gain a feel for Otter Creek, you must first understand that this "Cracker" town is situated twenty minutes south of Chiefland and forty-five minutes west of Gainesville, Florida. If you glance down to wipe the splash of coffee off your pants as you are driving by – you will miss it.

Otter Creek consists of devout, gossiping Southern Baptists, one far-sighted, cane walking, tobacco-spitting black mayor and Mr. Fred. I found it ironic that this Baptist-preaching, black hating, predominately white town housed both the black mayor and the precarious Mr. Fred.

You see, Mr. Fred is everything that the Southern Baptists are not. He hates religion. He scoffs at the WWJD (what would Jesus do) stickers on the tailgates of their jacked-up, 8 cylinder, mud-splattered, Chevy trucks. He was fully aware that the ladies of the Otter Creek Baptist Church had their eye on him and not for his eligibility as a land-owning bachelor. I am sure the ladies were convinced that if they could persuade this atheistic, scornful man to stop walking in the shadows of the devil and to embrace the light of Jesus, then the congregation would most certainly be blessed.

I had heard all of their stories about this non-believing man before Mr. Fred and I had actually met. I understood that his wife had died from cancer three years before and that he chose to keep to himself. He had never had any children. He lived in a doublewide on a 10-acre spread with his dog, Lucille, and his two cats. He spent his afternoons on horseback, wandering the desolate swamps of the Wacasassa with a shotgun slung cautiously over his shoulder (in case of the rattlers).

On the morning of our acquaintance, I had just started my son in the first-grade at the Bronson Elementary School. Since it was already 8:30, I decided to check my mailbox. I pulled my white Jimmy up to the curb in front of the tiny, stucco post office. As I walked past a gray minivan, I could feel the steam roll off of the drooling tongue that protruded from the passenger's window and I offered an absent-minded pat to an excited hound while I fumbled inside my purse for the keys to my box.

After flipping through my mail: a bill from Sears, the Chiefland Citizen, a Wal-Mart flyer and an ad promising weight loss in only 30 days, I threw the flyer and the ad into the trash and carelessly dropped my keys onto the tiled floor. As I bent down to retrieve my keys, I did not notice the hairy, thin arm that was also reaching down. Startled, I jumped up and bumped heads with the kind stranger that was trying to assist me.

"Oh! I am so sorry. Thank you so much," I stammered, mostly in fright from having thought that I was alone.

"No problem. Glad I could help," he offered, as a slow, thin smile spread brightly across his pale face.

"Hi. I'm Fred," he chuckled as he once again raised his hairy arm. This time, the gesture was one of greeting.

"Nice to meet you," I grinned, wrapping my own bony fingers around his cold, slender hand. "I suppose that is your dog in the van."

"Yeah," he nodded. "Lucille. She goes everywhere with me. I rescued her from a hit-and-run off of I-19. She was grossly mangled, scared and shivering. I wrapped my flannel shirt around her and drove her to the vet's. She's been loyal to me ever since. She keeps this old man from being lonely since I don't have any family nearby. You?" he asked quizzically as he peered at me intently.

"Oh, me...," I shrugged, wondering if this family that I married into would ever consider me to be anything other than an outsider. "Yeah, In-laws."

"So, you are new to Otter Creek," he surmised as he scratched methodically at the splatter of age-spots across his brow.

"Yeah. My husband, our three boys, and I are living in a travel trailer on my in-laws property. We moved here last week. I'm just getting to know the locals."

"Not much to know but they all want to know everyone else's business," he muttered. "I can't believe you have three kids. Kind of tight living in a travel trailer, isn't it?"

I wanted to scream, Like hell it is! "Yeah," is all I offered as I noticed the blue paint etched into his fingers and draped across the thighs of his Levi's. I began imagining that he was a crazed and talented painter but by the looks of his tattered, leather moccasins and the Scotch-tape on the frame of his reading glasses, he was most certainly a thrifty, "do-it yourselfer."

"The travel trailer is temporary." I did not want him to think that I could not afford decent housing. "My husband and I are looking for a place to rent or buy. God bless, Florida. Where else can you live in a travel-trailer in the middle of November?"

"Yeah, God bless," he sneered. "Don't let the locals mess with your pleasant personality. I hope to see you again...," he paused with the sudden realization that he had yet to ask my name.

"Trish," I smiled. "My name's Trish."

"See you around, Trish," he nodded as he covered his speckled age-spots with a knit army-green cap. Tucking his Wallstreet Journal under his arm he walked away.

He hadn't really said anything out of the ordinary. Nothing particular jumped out in my mind, yet I couldn't get him out of my mind. As I drove the two miles home, I wished that I could capture his intriguing, chiseled face on canvas.

Although he could have ridden on the bus, I began driving my son to Bronson every morning. This was not because I had miraculously become a morning person but rather that I secretly longed for my conversations with Mr. Fred. He in return, began to purposefully wait for my 8:30 arrival.

"Morning, Fred," I'd cheerfully offer. "Lucille sleep through the night?"

"No. She barked all night. Meeks' damn dogs were running deer. Should be illegal -hunting animals like bloody savages," he said. I think they forgot what century we live in. It's not like they can't pick up a package of beef at Winn Dixie. Someone oughta put the buckshot in their ass and see how they like it." Our morning conversations usually started with these similar scenes. He was normally grouchy and wanted to air his complaints. I tried to be cheerful and was always rewarded when I managed to coax a chuckle out of this pretentious ornery old man.

"Ah, it looks like you need some coffee. Is anything else new?" I had learned by now to casually steer Fred into a calmer conversation by first addressing the topics that irked him. Once he had his aggressions off of his chest, his chiseled face would soften and his bony fingers would unclench their wrath, momentarily, from whatever demons life had thrown at him.

"Nah. A couple of church ladies keep trying to save me. It's a wonder they even talk to me.

"Did you see how drunk the locals were at the pig roast Saturday night?" he said. And they say that I need to find Christ. Christ, looks like they need a mirror." He spat out his last words with disgust.

Suddenly he softened. "Here. You can have this." He handed me a Coach catalog and I notice the name Joni Wegener on the address.

"My wife," he answered, noticing the question within my eyes. "She loved Coach. I used to surprise her with handbags and shoes. She'd always blush and tell me I shouldn't. She loved surprises."

Flipping through the catalog, I gasped at the $584 price tag on a handbag. Fred noticed my shock. "The price seems high but the quality is exceptional. My wife wore a pair of black leather gloves for twenty years. They fit her like her own skin and they were beautiful. A lady deserves quality, Trish." His statement seemed contrary, coming from a man who owned two pairs of jeans and only a few more shirts.

Time passed. My husband and I moved our family to Chiefland. I decided to keep my mail box in Otter Creek. I didn't want to miss my morning chats with Mr. Fred, as I was secretly afraid that I would become the newest member on his complaint list.

Money was tight. My husband was working as a plumber in nearby Cedar-Key while I was shuffling hungry, impatient diners through a busy, rustic steakhouse. One day, Fred approached me cautiously. "Do you have enough money?" he bluntly asked.

"We get by," I mumbled while wondering if the two days my husband had stayed home due to a delay in construction would affect this week's paycheck.

"Do you travel? Do you go different places? Do you do different things?" he persisted.

"On occasion," I whispered while silently commanding him to stop the interrogation.

"Trish, you are smart, young, and capable of pursuing your dreams." He reached out and squeezed my hand. "You still dream don't you?"

That was the moment in which I realized that dreaming without the pursuit would never become more than a dream.

Unfortunately, pursuing my dreams meant moving away from Mr. Fred, the gossiping church ladies, and my 40-hour a week job as a petite, smiling Yankee girl in a boisterous redneck town.

Fred was sad that I had to leave, but true to his nature, he was supportive. He kissed the top of my blonde hair and made me promise to keep in touch. I've held to my promise.

When the leaves turn shades of brown and gold and the air feels crisp and is full of the pungent aroma of dying leaves, a package – scrawled with his quaint, familiar writing, will appear in my mailbox. He remembers my birthday and I remember his. He turned 75 this past May -a number that reflects his wisdom but not the youth in his heart. He claims to be "not much of a writer" but still manages to pen me a few deep and meaningful lines every few months.

SUBMIT TO THE LYNDON REVIEW

SEND IN YOUR POEMS, ESSAYS, AND SHORT STORIES. ATTACH A DOCUMENT SAVED IN RICH TEXT FORMAT TO AN E-MAIL
SEND THE E-MAIL TO **JOSHUA.GERVAIS@LYNDONSTATE.EDU**. MAKE SURE YOU PUT "LYNDON REVIEW" IN YOUR SUBJECT LINE.

ALL ART/WRITING MUST INCLUDE YOUR NAME, THE GENRE YOU'RE WRITING IN (IS IT A POEM, AN ESSAY OR A SHORT STORY?) AND SOME WAY TO CONTACT YOU.
IF YOU HAVE SOME ARTWORK YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT, PUT IT IN A FOLDER AND PLACE IT IN CHANDLER GILMAN'S DOOR BOX (VAIL 466).

ALL THE COOL KIDS ARE DOING IT.

AN HOUR OFF

By Charlie Martin

I woke up in bed next to a naked woman. Not a Hollywood-style naked woman with skin smelling like fresh soap and the blanket conveniently covering her nipples to keep a PG-13 rating. Instead it was a northern Vermont-style naked woman, with breasts like old yogurt and a small puddle of drool soaking into her pillow. She tightened her grip on the blanket as I eased myself to the waking world. When I saw her reddened knuckles, I began wondering where I was.

The alarm clock said 11am. I was usually just getting home from my second job at this time. I either had the day off, or I'd been fired.

I froze as she rolled over and muttered something incomprehensible at the ceiling. Odysseus in the den of Kyklopes, except I didn't have the balls to stab her eyes out. After I noticed that I had been holding my breath, she broke into a loud snore and I tiptoed toward the bathroom, grabbing a dirty pair of jeans off of the floor on my way.

A stranger wearing my face greeted me when I looked in the mirror. We watched one another for a long time as I tried to get my bearings. Bruises ran up and down my chest and fingernail cuts criss-crossed my shoulders familiarly enough, but there was something wrong with my face...

"The beard."

My hand searched the counter top, absently passing over the broken razor blade that I had introduced my wrists to a couple weeks ago and ultimately finding one of my disposable Bics. It took me half an hour, but I finally managed to remove the brown mossy hair that had covered my cheeks and neck. I splashed my face with some soapy warm water when I was done, and the stranger smiled at me. Without the beard and devoid of the drooping purple bags under my eyes, we almost looked like the familiar boy from the time before.

11:35. I skipped my shower and decided that I could do without breakfast lest the hiss of water or the pop of bacon beckon her into the waking world. Not that it would have been a bad thing to see her, I told myself. After all, I did love her. Or she loved me; they were supposed to be the same thing. But these times were precious to me; I only got one day a month off. It had to be that way, she told me, because she couldn't stand to be cooped up at a job eight hours out of the day.

Tucked safely away underneath the coffee table, narrowly avoiding a spilled ashtray on the cat litter-smelling carpet, I found my stack of comics. In my carelessness the pile had grown top heavy and had fallen victim to the state of general disorganization that my life had comfortably settled into. I grabbed a comic at random, pulling the issue from beneath an overturned plate of hardened mashed potatoes.

FANTASY AS YOU LIKE IT! promised the cover. A group of soldiers along with one sad woman stood pointing in shock as a scrawny man in a lab coat (THE STRANGEST MAN OF ALL TIME!!) transformed into a huge gray monster.

IS HE MAN OR MONSTER OR...IS HE BOTH?

Unfortunately, I would never find out as I discovered the pages inside torn out. The back of my memory showed me newsprint made into confetti, floating in the air for a few moments along with a few high-pitched words.

You're always reading these things! Why don't you do anything productive around the house?

The shadowy argument was easy to forget, as were many things outside of these days off. I didn't feel like reading comics anyway.

11:42.

I dropped heavily onto the sofa, frowning at the spot on the arm where the cat had thrown up.

Maybe I should do some cleaning, suggested my brain.

Instead I reached into my pants pocket and pulled out a tiny red notepad and the stub of a pencil.

I had given up trying to type out my thoughts into poetry or, God forbid, an actual story, since the clacking of a keyboard tended to wake her from her midday slumbers, even when a fire alarm sometimes wouldn't. Instead I had taken to scribbling down broken thoughts and a few silly metaphors that I thought might be of use later, when I somehow would become a famous writer. I flipped open the cover to take a look at what I had, struggling a bit as I tried to straighten out the bent spiral spine.

Two pages of tic tac toe games that I had scribbled out during the night hours at the convenient store. Another page of pencil sketches. Birds were my thing; that and someone's right eye was all that I could draw. I frowned as I noticed that one of the swans had a beak that looked strangely like a penis. If I had a psychiatrist, I wonder what he'd make of that...

Three pages of things that I hold as universal truths, mostly scribbled out as my world view met with revision. "My parents love me," crossed out, rewritten, and crossed out again. "Glasses, braces, and all, she thinks I'm handsome," underlined. "Don't believe her lies," scrawled languidly across the top the night that I saw Memento.

A dozen or so of the pages had been torn out, their remains hugging the metal loops that held the pad together.

When I finally came across my "serious writing" section, there was only one line:

"Goat-like troll woman."

I frowned and furrowed my brow, trying to come up with something better. I drew stars and a hummingbird in my margins, making sure to keep the beak as small and non-phallic as possible. 11:58 found me tapping the pointy end of my pencil against my forehead as I tried to think of some sort of unique image or a cogent metaphor.

11:59. The bedroom door slammed and she stepped out, a gray bathrobe slung around her shoulders and failing to quite keep her contained. Her stomach reminded me of soggy pasta.

"So are you going to get cleaning or are you going to lounge around all day?"

I frowned and made one addition to my notepad before tucking it back into my jean pocket.

"300-pound goat-like troll woman."

12:00. I got to work.

TEA LEAVES

By Nat Forcier

Years ago you brought me tea
upon your return from China,
loose and in a box of silver paper
embossed with a golden dragon.
I gathered it up
along with
the magic of your care
and they have been steeping ever since.

Aspects of living infuse with you --
strong and precious herb;
wild and rare in the world's forests --
are enchanted now.

Weeks of summer pass sweetly
as if I sip an elixir of shade-grown mint,
smooth and honeyed.
Cool weather comes and healing warmth
and spice are sought
in Earl Grey and bergamot.
At least, when ice and the white sleep
take hold,
essence of you is in a potion of heated
wine,
mulberry red with a jeweled orange-slice
sun
bright and afloat at the surface, studded
with clove.

I am leaving your gift in the waters of
my soul,
where reflects a silken moon,
and pray your days are long and lemon
yellow,
soothing and ginger-hot.

LANDSCAPE

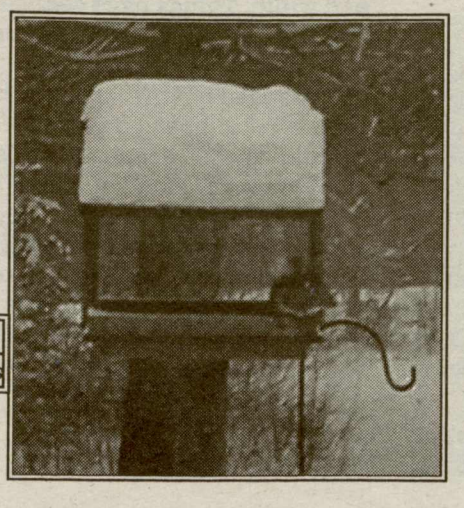
By Nat Forcier

The morning becomes
one thousand Japanese woodblock
prints
as the ginger sun
rises like the eye of
some benevolent dragon
peering over
eastern hills.
The bluer the sky becomes,
the more you fill my heart
and course like shining water
shaping stone
on the way to an azure sea.

How is it I fall asleep
longing –
like the writers of haiku –
to reach you,
and then wake from dreams to find
twin blue jays
branches above
droplets of dew
that, in the early luminance
and whispered breeze,
flutter on spring leaves
like a pair of golden butterflies?

SQUIRREL

By Joshua James Gervais



TWO BIRDS OF A FEATHER

By Anthony Santacaterina

Our first day together was so much fun and delight,
but it doesn't compare to the fun on our first night.
Our first week together was full of happiness and bliss,

Out I can't say it was as great as our very first kiss.
our first month together brought warmth and love to me,
but by our second month I couldn't wait for our anniversary.

Our third month together was our best yet,
but that's only because it hadn't been four months since we met!
our fifth month together was a new and beautiful time,
we loved each other's hearts so much all they did was rhyme.

Out by our sixth month together I knew what was to come,
an amazing lifetime of happiness and fun.

As our anniversaries continue to pass
I'm so happy that we will always last.
by our tenth year together we will have a son,
but I'm sure by then we'll be done!

After a few children and 30 years of love,
we will finally decide to begin our adventure, respecting the man above.
we will live to be one hundred and together for the years,
we will have so many memories, and so many tears.

Tears of love, joy, and precious moments,
of family, and children, and subtle hints.
the times we saw each other and knew what we were thinking,
the moments that we saw our selves putting on those rings.

I can't explain how happy I am, or how happy I will be,
I can only say that I can't wait for you to begin your life with me.
no longer children, we grow to be together,
we simply will always be two birds of a feather.

THE YELLOW DART

By Charlie Martin

The purpose to her moving my computer into the bedroom was twofold. First of all, that meant that she didn't have to go into the living room, which by then had become the victim of a hostile takeover led by spilled ashtrays, moldy bread, dusty furniture, and several roaches, each of whom I had jokingly named Fred. Secondly, it meant that she could keep an eye on me and make sure that I didn't spend too much time at the keyboard. She made the move while I was working the night shift at the gas station down the street. By the time that I got home I had been up for seventy-two hours straight and I didn't care enough to make a complaint. Thus I became shackled to the bedroom, leaving only to work and to make my occasional and vain attempts at putting the house back into a state that remotely resembled clean.

Her snores were the type of rumbles that God probably makes when he stubs his toe: loud, commanding, and reeking of unhappiness. I had surreptitiously tossed out my spiral notebook when the words "goat-like troll woman" had gained more metaphors than necessary and I became worried that she might find it. But I had managed a good two hours of sleep yesterday, and I didn't have to be in to work at the doughnut shop until midnight, so I decided to drag my feet and do something else before crawling into bed next to her. Our cat Nighty laid pinned underneath her massive armpit, so she wasn't lacking for company anyway. After a few more justifications and silent motivational speeches, I convinced myself that I really wanted to write something substantial tonight.

I pressed the first key softly, and even then the minute clack that it made brought a wince to my face before I realized that her snores would probably drown out anything short of twelve car pileup. Still, I proceeded cautiously, and after three or four minutes I managed to produce a header:

The Yellow Dart

An Internet site that I had visited in a half-conscious state had very explicitly stated that "The Yellow Dart" was a great title, full of mystery and suspense. Those three words comprised the last entry that I had made in my hastily abandoned notepad, and I had tried using it in many an unfinished (and often unstarted) story. The title had come to represent something important and incoherent to me. Those three words represented the story that I couldn't tell; the words that I couldn't say.

My work continued, the letters chattering away in hushed voices under my careful fingers. As usual, I couldn't think of anything that made for an interesting story. I turned my head for a moment and looked at the bed, examining her chubby baby-like toes sticking out from beneath the blankets and decided to write about what was most dear to me.

This is how we first met.

"Hey Leah...what's up?" I continued on without waiting for an answer and my brain reached down to smack my voice box for moving too quickly. "Would you like to go see a movie or something tonight?" The words dashed out, my lack of courage and nervousness around girls hot on their heels.

"I can't. I'm going out for Valentine's Day with my boyfriend."

"..."

"You knew I had a boyfriend, didn't you?"

I spent the afternoon banging my head against the paper towel dispenser in the men's bathroom. When I got out, I ran into Lil. She asked me out, and I thanked her silently for being my safety net. It didn't take me long after that to realize that she was the only woman I would ever find.

The text vanished before I got a chance to proofread it. A window popped up and asked me if I wanted to save it and I told it no, because she had rolled over to face me and my computer screen. I looked at her frozen in the still dark air of the room until her mouth dropped open and her head drooped back into whatever dream she was having. I turned and looked back at the screen, frowning more in disgust at the puked-up grass green of the desktop wallpaper than in disappointment that I had once again failed to come up with a good idea. I looked around the room and noted that the bedroom was decorated in the same color as the computer.

With a half-purr and a half-yowl the cat squirmed away from its fleshy prison and jumped to the carpet, scampering to freedom. I sighed and slid into bed, taking off my clothes first and leaving them scattered haphazardly on the floor.

Once in bed I pulled my knees up to my chest and gave them a hug. With both of us facing the edge of the groaning old piece of furniture only our backs touched. Her skin was cold and the scars on mine itched when we touched, but I chose not to move and to try and get some sleep for a change. The back of my mind had developed a nasty habit of lying to me, and it told me that I was unhappy. The front of my mind told the back to shut the hell up, what did it know about being happy anyway.

I was still lying in bed arguing with myself at sunset, a time when normal people were eating and getting ready for primetime TV. She rolled over and put her arms around me. Her hug was strong, and it pressed my lungs against my ribcage, causing a moment of pain before I decided that it was only an expression of love.

"By the way," she whispered groggily into my ear, "my sister is coming over for dinner, so we have to do some cleaning." She gave me a kiss that felt like a squid gnawing at my face. Then she rolled over and started snoring again.

The "we" in her phrase meant "you," which meant that I would have to hurry home after work. Once again my brain started its debate, one side telling me that I was disappointed by this news. The other side responded with a resounding rebuttal of reminding me of my first meeting with her cute blonde sibling. My thoughts formed into words on a mental page, the only writing that I really did anymore.

"My sister talked about you on the way home," said Lil, giggling.

"Oh? What did she say?"

"She said that she thought you were ugly, but I told her that I love you anyway."

Then came the kiss, a vacuum cleaner stuck to my cheek.

I rolled over and hugged all that I had. Three hundred pounds of the only woman who would tolerate me.

On my way to work I noticed that I had a welt on my right cheek where she had kissed me.

FALLEN HERO

By Charlie Martin

"The evil that men do lives after them. The good is oft interred in their bones." –Julius Caesar

He walks across the baseball field where we like to hang out. His left hand swings casually at his side, but his right fist lies hidden in the deep pockets of his navy blue corduroys. The crisp autumn air has left the field abandoned for weeks now, and the pitcher's mound lies covered in the dead Technicolor of Vermont leaves. He brushes the old foliage away with his foot, never removing the secret from his pocket. Climbing onto the mound, he stands as close to heaven as either of us will ever get. He points his head toward the setting sun. his hand shoots out to follow his line of vision, finally revealing the secret on his right index finger. The small plastic band still glows green from its hiding place in darkness. He smiles as I let out a gasp of awe.

It's his power ring. It cost him two proofs of purchases and half of his allowance for shipping and handling, but it has finally arrived.

* * *

The newspaper hit the doorstep, blindsiding me. We hadn't seen each other for at least five years, but there he was on the front page. Metal rings cuffed his hands behind him, and a police officer pushed him into the back of a patrol car. The same eyes that I recognized from the grade school playground stared toward the camera, glazed and filled with tears.

"Two Shot Dead."

About halfway down the page they had pictures of his two victims. The first images looked like they had come out of a high school yearbook, with the individuals smiling in the prepared perfection of a senior picture. Contrasted with these images was a pair of body bags on the floor of a trailer.

I reached inside my pocket and touched his ring.

* * *

For such a simple object, the power ring has many amazing abilities. It glows in the dark, illuminating the blackest of nights and inspiring fear in the hearts of evildoers. It grants the wearer super strength, an iron will, and the ability to travel across space and time. Best of all, it can only be used by the pure of heart. Those who would abuse the power can never wield the ring.

I begged him for weeks to borrow it. I didn't want to keep it; I just wanted to see the power in action. I figured we could share time fighting crime, but he would have none of it.

"I'll give you the address. You can get your own and we'll be a team."

I couldn't wait. One day after baseball practice I slipped into his room and saw the ring sitting on his dresser. I couldn't help myself...

The ring never worked for me.

* * *

In the old days, back in the Silver Age of comics, you always knew the good guys from the bad guys. It was so obvious that it was sometimes literally the difference between black and white. Things have changed so much, and now the best of us can fall from grace at any time.

I attended his trial, staying in the back where I hoped he wouldn't notice me. The judge asked for his plea, and his lawyer said not guilty. But his face filled with fear, and I could see how far he had fallen. I tried to convince myself that it was like the old days, one of those old plots where the hero got framed by some clever villain. He knew that he hadn't done it, but he had to abide by the law's decision. That's what heroes did; they preserved the order and they always abided by the law. Eventually the villain would slip up and one of the hero's friends, usually his kid sidekick, would find the proof necessary to clear his name. I watched the trial attentively: every exhibit, every testimony. It all synched up. No holes that indicated a frame-up, no questionable motives. He hated those people. I don't know why, but he hated them enough to unload a shotgun on them. One barrel for each victim.

I hadn't read comic books in years, and I didn't expect the old rules to apply anymore. It still cut into my soul days later when the jury found him guilty.

"Two life sentences, to be served consecutively."

I watched him leave the courtroom in handcuffs, his eyes looking straight forward and his mind closed to the buzz of voices around him. I got a good look at his face, and wondered if any of it would have happened if he still had his power ring.

THE WINNER

By Charlie Martin

Lil and I had been fighting for about two months. Even if one of us did win an individual battle, it proved to be only a cosmetic victory, patching our relationship for a few hours or maybe even a day at a time before the well-stocked armies of our tempers clashed again. In the realm of the purely physical she outmatched me every time, beating her fists against my torso and sinking her nails into my arms while I stood motionless, unwilling to retaliate. My best bet was to make her cry early on, to hurt her with words so quickly that her temper would overload like an exploding boiler and send her running out of the room wailing. When I managed this feat I could always wait to the count of sixty before following her and apologizing, making for a teary-eyed and blissfully quiet session of makeup sex and a nap before the next battle. When I didn't manage to avoid the attack I had to wait for her to exhaust herself, which could take some time because throwing a punch required remarkably little energy from her. When she left the house in a rage I would take my defeat out on whatever inanimate object presented itself. Through this post-loss ritual I managed to throw a portable phone through the thinly plastered wall and blind myself by crumbling the metal frames of my glasses into a ball and tossing them into the pile of uncollected debris next to the brooms.

The bright side to this fighting is that my family was quite pleased to see me as long as Lil and I were angry with one another. On my days off from work I would wander into my parents' living room and pass out on their couch, letting them wake me up for occasional meals. But like everything else, these moments of tranquility were too temporary, and the visits would always end with my mother asking me how I got a new scar or bruise. Or, even worse, she would ask me why I was still with Lil, a question to which I had yet to find an answer. Such inquiries inevitably drove me from my home away from home as I shrugged, gave her a hug, and left for the other maelstrom in my life. It was on one of these mile-long walks back to the apartment that I finally snapped.

I had decided to try a new strategy, a preemptive peace-keeping mission. I stopped by the florist and picked out a single white rose for her, the same type of flower that I had given her on our prom night two years ago. In all the time that I had known her, she cried only two types of tears: the happy ones that came infrequently and the angry, bitter ones that I forced from her. Since the former were too rare to be relied upon, I figured that they would catch her off-guard and possibly even establish a truce between the two of us.

So I found myself walking home with a carefully wrapped flower hidden away behind the long tweed flap of my trench coat and singing a song. Frank Sinatra's "Swinging on a Star" was my favorite because my toneless voice somehow picked up musical talent while tiptoeing over the lyrics. The only other piece of music that I had found to equal that value was "Mack the Knife," which I had fallen in love with after hearing Louis Armstrong's black purr of a voice. Unfortunately, I could never remember all of the words to "Mack," and I figured that a song about ruthless murder probably wasn't the best tune for the situation anyway. So I stuck to "Swinging on a Star," letting the song's hope and opportunity guide my mind.

I made my way through the first two verses of the song before a realization dawned on me and I stopped walking. For the first time in what may well have been an eternity I found myself in an extended good mood. All I had to do was hold this feeling, keep this happy tune on my lips, and I could carry this happiness home and give it to Lil. With that cheery realization, I began moving again, renewing the song and raising the volume of my voice. And when a pair of yokels driving a rust-brown pickup passed me on a back road and called me a fag, I cheerfully flipped them off and continued with my song, thinking nothing of it.

"And all the monkeys aren't in the zoo, everyday you meet quite a few..."

Before I could finish the verse I found myself tossed into the gutter, caught off guard by the offended hillbilly that had gotten out of the truck and charged me, smashing his shoulder into my chest before my wandering mind even made it into the here and now. My assailant chuckled and headed back to the truck, which clanked and growled back to life as his friend began to depart once more having made that brief stop. The aging old vehicle took a while to start up again and was only just rolling into sluggish motion as I stood up, wincing at a sharp pain in my side. Reaching underneath my jacket, I felt the broken stem of my flower, its thorns thrust against my body and its petals crushed.

Within the next moment I came to realize exactly what it must feel like to be the Incredible Hulk. An inexplicable green rage tore through my body and I felt my muscles tense and stretch, my fury growing them to unnatural strength. In my mind I became large and dangerous, and the sound of the car engine and the laughter of my foes died down to a murmur, as though I heard the entire world through the bottom of a swimming pool. I shouted something that didn't make it past my lips, threw my jacket with its broken contents to the ground, and charged after the truck as it sputtered to life, my body tense with excitement and a chance to finally fight back against something. My eyes must have been red and shooting murder, because they put on panicked faces and sped up. But in another instant the passenger found himself hanging half out of an open window, my hands around his head and my feet dragging on the dirt of the road as the truck pulled me along.

The driver stopped the truck again and the world devolved into fists and sweat from there. A punch registered against my skull and I fell away out of habit rather than out of pain. My original attacker sputtered and stepped out of the truck as I regained my feet. One of them said something that fell mute against my clouded mind. Through my uncorrected eyes they were faceless monsters, their visages blurred and mutated by myopia. I delighted in this fact and gave a toothy grin as the words to "Mack the Knife" flooded back into my brain.

The shark has such teeth, dear...

I grinned, showing my pearly whites just before I leapt onto one of them, my only desire being to choke the life out of my enemy. The other one pounded his fists against me, pummeling the back of my head with blows that I wouldn't feel for days.

I eventually managed to get a good grip on my victim's throat and I watched his face start to pale. When I was a kid, my brothers and I had figured out an order to the changing colors of your face if you held your breath long enough. First it was red, then white, then purple. I wanted to see what color came next.

Then the world went black for a second again and my life corrected itself. My opponent's driver had managed to grab my shoulders and throw me backwards, resetting my rage and causing me to forget what had brought me to that point. I picked myself up, my hip suddenly hurting from the earlier impact. The blurry-faced monster that I had been fighting with placed a hand on my shoulder, his face slowly returning to its normal color.

"Hey, relax man," he gasped. When he fully regained his breath, he gave me a strange sort of grin. "You're a wiry son of a bitch."

"What?" My ears had begun hearing again, and their sudden return came as a slight shock to my mind.

"No hard feelings, okay?"

"Yeah, no hard feelings. Where's my jacket?"

"Here you go," my foe's accomplice handed me the coat and I shrugged it back on, feeling like myself again.

"Yeah, thanks." I wondered if I should punch him once for good measure, but he shook my hand instead and they were off. I got most of the way home before my hip started really bothering me and I began to limp.

It was almost twilight when I finally staggered up splintered gray stairs and found Lil sitting on the couch facing our front door, her face crossed into a frown. The debris that served as our living room was a fallen city of pizza boxes and unwashed dishes, fitting her disarrayed expression perfectly.

"You were supposed to look at a new TV," she said. Pounds of excess flesh dangled off of her arm as she gestured over to our television, which had been the latest victim of one of my defeats. I had hit it with an iron shovel that had inexplicably found its way into our broom closet, and the monitor had just exploded outward, leaving glass scattered everywhere. I didn't know that TV screens did that. Remembering my shock I chuckled, momentarily forgetting where I was.

"You think this is funny?!" Her shriek cut across my eardrums with the precision of a razor blade and she raised an angry fist. To my surprise, it didn't land because someone grabbed it. She let out a small squeal of pain as the hand squeezed the bones in her hand together, trembling in the effort. Then I let go, my jaw slack as I realized that it was my hand.

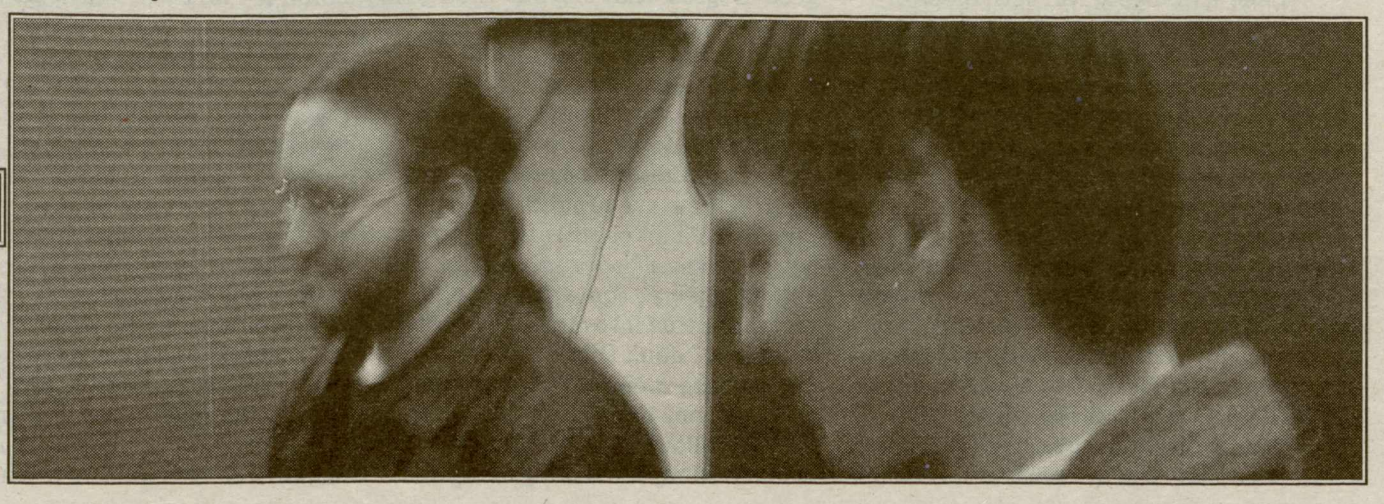
She started crying those bitter tears that I had wanted to avoid.

"I'd better go," I said, my voice low and unusually solemn as I turned toward the door. I needed something else. I needed to find a fight I could win without actually fighting.

With painstaking effort I closed the door gently behind me and started down the porch, wondering where I was going to go. Reaching into my jacket I removed the remains of the obliterated rose and sighed, realizing that I had missed a chance at real victory.

KEITH & STAN

By Joshua James Gervais



THE VERMONT DOOR

By Stacey Maynard

Four years ago, on a sunny December, Northeast Kingdom day I arrived in Lyndonville to meet my future husband, Norman, at the McDonalds. I followed him to his house in Westmore, home of Lake Willoughby. I was very excited and nervous anticipating my new home. The road was beautiful with the green mountains and farm landscapes making for a scenic view. Along the way, I noticed a number of houses which had doors with no steps leading to them, no decks attached to them, anything but the air. I thought it very peculiar, but I shrugged it off.

When I arrived at my new home I was not very impressed. It is a kind of ranch where you have to enter through the cellar in the front and a ground level porch in the back. There are two entrances in the front because twenty years ago Norman built an addition. The color of the house is plain white with the addition having never been painted. Inside were thirteen rooms but they were all very small. It was a neglected home with no one giving it just a little loving care. We did not even use the addition.

Norman is a very serious, take charge type of person. He is five feet ten inches tall, with balding brown hair here and there. He wears large clothes because he is large. He looks so very French even though he has a quarter Scottish blood in him. Norman has very big, round eyes that are an icy, crystal blue color. He has a lot of hair all over his body to make up for the lack of it on top of his head. He is very good natured and easy going which he never likes to let people know. He is also very friendly and easy to talk to but don't tell him I said so. He likes to put on this image of being real tough where he really is so very gentle and kind.

As time went by, Norman took me on a lot of sight seeing tours of my new state. Vermont is so very beautiful. I saw mountains everywhere I looked, rivers that wound along the road, and farms that went on and on. There were wildlife to look for, such as deer, moose, bears, foxes and coyotes. I found Vermont to be picture perfect wherever we went. There weren't the cities, congestion, traffic jams and the wall to wall people I was use to. You could be riding on a country road with a river or brook along side of you and suddenly there would be falls right before you. The air smelled fresh and brand new, free from pollution. There was one terrible smell though, that of the dairy farms. I can not get use to the smell of the dairy farms, which brings with it flies.

Even where I live has the famous, Lake Willoughby. On both Sides of the lake are Mountains with these gorgeous ledges and coming down some of these ledges are beautiful waterfalls. The falls are especially beautiful during the winter when ice and snow build up and make beautiful modern sculptures of blue and white. Yes, Vermont is quite a sight, the most beautiful place I have been in and so very different each season.

With each ride we took I did keep noticing those doors with no steps leading to them. There were a lot of them. Doors that seem to be there just for the beauty and not for any particular use by their owner. It really piqued my interest why they were there. I had already named them, Vermont Doors. I had never seen anything like this. I told Norman about this. He thought I was a bit daft and peculiar. This made me point them out to him all the time and he started to see I was right. He had taken a lot of the landscape in Vermont for granted living here all his life. This is when I started my quest to find out why Vermonters had doors like this.

I was becoming attached to these doors. I thought they were unique. I began to think they were a statement by Vermonters to be able to do what they want and not care what anyone else thought. They would not be put under any pressure to do what everyone else tells them. I find Vermonters say a lot, "Don't push me. " I convinced myself that was why so many people had them in Vermont. They were not going to be pushed into doing what society tells them to do. Very stubborn people they are. I admired that.

One day Bob Willis our neighbor up on Hinton Hill came for a visit. Bob is a short man at five feet five; he has brown hair with more and more gray hair sneaking in everyday, a very brown mustache, and green eyes. He has a pudgy belly probably from beer drinking. He is a very pleasant but very stubborn fellow. Being the only male with five sisters growing up he is very easy for me to talk to as a female. You can say anything to him and he is very understanding and you know it will never go any farther. There is a joke between us that we call each other "It." We are much like brother and sister and people mistake us for that because we are always arguing and telling each other what to do.

Well, I was raving on about all of the Vermont Doors we had recently seen. He smiled and looked so proud when he informed me, "I have a Vermont Door."

"You do?" I asked, "Why do you have one?"

"Well, I was always going to put steps in but never got around to it." I was very disappointed and very jealous. So, it was just because of laziness not any political statement. Well, I wished for a Vermont Door, to make me a real Vermonter in everyone's eyes. To be able to say, "Don't push me."

When Norman got home from work that afternoon I complained that Bob had a Vermont Door, but we didn't. I got it into my head that I would never be a Vermonter unless I had a Vermont Door and we should think of where we wanted one. After all, Vermonters were unique for their Vermont Doors. Norman had a good laugh at that one and then gave me a very sheepish look and said," We have one." I was so excited. I made him show me right away. There it was in a room on the other end of the house that we don't use. It was on the side of the house about ten feet from the ground. Boy, this house had a lot of entrances. It was the old master bedroom; we would eventually tear some walls down and make this into our large master bedroom. I don't think I had even been in this room but once or twice. I was so very happy.

Then followed the question I would find myself asking everyone who had a Vermont Door, "Why do we have one?"

I got the same answer I always get when I ask this question, "I never got around to it." I must say that was very disappointing. All my intrigue into the reasons why they would do this to find out it was just plain pure laziness! But it wasn't to me. To me, owning this meant I was a Vermonter and no one better push me. I was not going to tell anyone it was because my Norman was just lazy.

Another thought I had always had about these doors was, "what was on the other sides of those doors? Were they magical and a whole new world was on the other side, was it a place where I could see my past relatives? A wonderful place of Utopia?"

I could just picture a story Stephen King would write about if he knew about these doors. He would probably have a field day, just as I was. So, it was with a little bit of nervousness that I opened my very own Vermont door. I paused a bit with my hand on the cool doorknob. Norman looked at me as though I was crazy, being afraid to open a door. But he had no idea what my imagination had done. Finally I just flung open the door. There was nothing but the outside, no other world. At least it was a pretty view of the trees that surround our house.

To me, it didn't matter why so many people had them. I had one. I knew other states wouldn't let people have doors with nothing attached to them. No one was going to tell a Vermonter what to do. That was a freedom I never had in any other state I lived in. You always did what authority told you. I find that Vermonters aren't like that, even if they didn't put the doors there for any reason but not getting around to it (which is unique for so many in one area doing the same thing). They do what they want and seem to usually get away with it. What freedom they have! I could feel myself becoming me, unique with the confidence that I had more freedoms than any other place I lived. I could complain to authority and they would listen. I could go to a town meeting and say my peace and people would listen. I felt myself feeling more and more like I could be myself.

But, like everything else, that freedom was going to be taken away from me. We went to get a mortgage and the bank said everything was all set and as soon as we put steps or a deck on the door that had neither we could get our money. I was taken back. Who were they to tell me what I had to do? I told them too, for I was a Vermonter now. They didn't even listen to me. They said someone could get hurt. I informed them it had been that way for over twenty years and no one had opened the door and taken a flying leap to their death yet (it is on the second floor). I had yet to read in a newspaper or watch on television of anyone taking a fall out of their Vermont Door. Do they really think Vermonters are that stupid? We are not like the other dimwits in the other states who can't see there are no steps or deck leading from the door. The bank could have cared less and said it was their policy. The bankers couldn't be Vermonters because they think people have no common sense.

It was with a heavy heart that we put steps to our door. I felt defeated. I felt more like an outsider because I lost my Vermont Door. It wasn't even because we had said it was time to put stairs there. It was not our decision.

As time went on I could see other people who could keep their Vermont Door but we couldn't have ours. I was angry, yes, just like a little child, I wanted my Vermont Door. Yes, the green eyed monster, envy, had hit me. I even tried to convince Norman to make another one. He said someday, but where did we need another door?

We were slowly and surely renovating the house. We had knocked down a number of walls to give the new, single room an open airy feature with a lot more light. We had put some finishing touches and had just the floors and walls to finish. Oh yes, we are also replacing all of the windows. We were running low on money so we decided to let the inside of the house go for a bit and concentrate on the outside.

A few months later, with the approach of spring, we were planning to put in ornamental trees, flowering bushes and lots and lots of flowers. We also wanted to make a new driveway in the back of our house. The front of the house had beautiful rock tiers going up to the entrance and side of the house (we live on a hill). They would look beautiful filled with flowering bushes and flowers, maybe even a little fall ending in a garden pool. We decided the best thing was to take a stroll around our house to see what ideas came to mind and where to put what. As we came to the side of the house where my Vermont door use to be we got a surprise. The steps we had put in had fallen over! I was ecstatic! We couldn't believe our eyes and just stood for a few looking. Then Norman went over and examined it. He said, "I knew I shouldn't have let you attach it. You didn't put the nails in. What if someone had walked on it?"

I quickly replied in my defense, "Well, no one used it for thirty years, why would we start now? Besides I thought I was quite clever." Norman just shook his head and smiled.

As we walked away he said as a very typical Vermonter, "Someday we will put new steps to the door or maybe make that deck." I gave him a great big hug, so happy that I had come to Vermont, so very happy that I had picked Norman. I knew as soon as he said that we would never get around to it.

I know in my heart that a door is not a way for me to be free but it was a symbol to me that I could have some say in the way I live. There is so much of the government telling us what we can and cannot do it is refreshing to just have one little thing to say, "There I choose to do it my way." To have that tiny little freedom taken from you is frustrating. It is like the government is saying you are not smart enough, don't worry we will make all of your decisions for you. You have to conform and be the same as everyone else. I feel that I beat them at their own game and outsmarted them a little.

WHEN I GROW UP

By Charlie Martin

There's a monster in my room. He didn't used to be a monster; none of us are to begin with.

He used to come to me when I needed comfort. He's me, you see, the person that I will become one day. I don't remember when he first came; I think he has always been there. When my parents had their fights and I would hide alone in the blackness of my bedroom, he'd come and comfort me. He'd pat my back with hairy hands that smelled like sawdust and tell me that everything would be okay one day.

"Mom's going to divorce him next year. She'll take you with her, and soon after that she'll meet someone new. That's the man that you'll end up calling Dad."

I didn't know what divorce meant, but I got an idea when my brother and I moved away with Mom next year and the hairy, bearded monster who called himself my father disappeared forever.

He used to come to me when I needed hope. Mom was sick for weeks and we all worried that she was going to leave us. He came to me with a beat-up scrap book tucked under his thick arm and showed me a picture of an old woman with gray hair and a toothy grin.

"That's our mom. She's going to live for many more years." He sat with me and we worried for her together. We had the comfort of knowing that our concern could somehow heal her, and in the end it did.

He used to come to me when I needed to dream. When I failed a test and one of my teachers told me that I'd never amount to anything, he would just scratch his beard and laugh.

"Just keep working. You're me, right? I'm a successful businessman. That means that you're going to be one someday, too."

What about Ms. Klein, I asked.

"She's going to end up giving you an A."

There were some days when he's told me things that scare me a little, like the time when he said that one day I'd be a husband, and someday after that I'd be a father.

"It's okay to be a little bit afraid," he told me. "You'll come to discover that the nervousness will make you a good parent. Eventually, you'll need that tiny bit of fear to be there."

Sometimes he hasn't been able to help, but he still tried. When I was crying alone in the dark the night that cancer stole my Dad away, all I wanted was for him to tell me that the hurting would stop. Instead he got a strange look on his face, as though a large piece of metal were stuck in his throat.

"You're always going to be a little sad. Not for him, but for you. Even when he was in pain, we loved the fact that he was in our lives. Now his pain is ended and a part of you has to be happy for him about that, at least. The thing is, he's not coming back like we want him to, and a part of you will always have that selfish sadness."

Even then, things seemed a little better when he was around. Tonight is the first time that he's come to warn me about anything.

There's a girl, the first girl that's ever really given me a second look. She's got long brown hair, mysterious green eyes, and for the month that we've been dating, I've felt complete. I haven't needed the other me since she and I met, so it's a big surprise to me when he comes into the room an hour before my date.

"You need to know something." He looks so serious; right from the outset I know that I'm not going to like what he has to say. So I try to ignore him. I focus all of my energy on pretending that he doesn't exist, that he's just a figment of my overactive imagination. I tell myself that I made him up to cheer me up when I feel down. He's not real. I focus on blocking him out so hard that I end up forgetting how to tie a necktie.

You see, I've deliberately avoided asking him about her. He's told me a lot about our wife Faith, but nothing about my girlfriend Donna. I don't want to know how it ends or what kind of pain she'll leave me in. For once, I don't want to know my future. I don't want him around until it's over and I need someone to help me feel good about life again.

Unfortunately, he seems determined to tell me anyway.

"You need to know something about the girl you've met. This Donna...you should stay away from her."

I knew he would say something like that. Somehow, I just knew. I've dropped my tie now and I'm looking at him through the bathroom mirror. My hands are clenched tight, and my knuckles have turned white.

I don't want to know about it, I tell him.

Underneath his bushy brown beard, the muscles of his jaw clench and unclench as he tries to choose his next words. "I know you don't want to hear about it. I know Mom's told you the same thing, and you'd like to hear something different coming out of my mouth. I know I sound just like her, but you've got to listen. This girl...she'll end up doing things to you. Not tonight, but years down the road. She'll hurt you and betray you in more ways than you thought were possible."

I don't care, I tell him. I'm just trying to enjoy my evening. This one evening. I can be warned away from her later.

"You don't understand. The things that will happen this evening, the things that she'll make you feel, it's the start of it all. I should have told you this long ago, but I was hoping that things would turn out differently for a change. Now I have to warn you. I'm trying to save you from the years of pain that I went through." He grabs my head and points my wandering vision at his eyes. They're red and bleary, as though he's been crying for days. "It happened years ago to me, and I'm still hurting from it."

I try to turn away, gritting my teeth in pain as I strain against his strong grip. I don't care about it, damn it! What happened to you won't happen to me!

"Look at me!" I try to keep away from his gaze, but my eyes wander back on his command. "How often have I lied to you? How often have I been wrong?"

Never. Never ever.

"You have to believe me. You might not appreciate what I'm saying now, but in the end I am you. You have to know that this is what we want."

No. It's what you want. Nothing more.

He looks at me sternly now, no longer as a friend but as a superior. "You are going to do as I say, for your own good. We both know that. If you won't do it, then I'm going to have to make you do it."

I shake my head and stand in shock as he reaches out and touches my mind. Then he disappears.

* * *

He's been gone for hours now, allowing me peace through dinner and in the theater. I've been on edge all night, but I haven't told Donna what's wrong. She simply smiles her red smile and touches her olive skin to my pale hand. The contact sends a small shudder down my spine.

"You're one big puzzle," she says, winking. "I like a puzzle."

Later on when we're supposed to be driving home, we start to take each other apart, piece by piece. She's mostly naked and is undoing my belt when he shows up, moving silently through the dim lights of the parking lot. He looks at my face, flushed red and colored further by smears of her lipstick. I try to say something. I try to warn her, but I can't seem to speak. He won't let me.

She continues her work, finally pulling my belt off in one fluid motion. She doesn't even see him...

His hands reaching through the open window behind her...

Grabbing her neck...

Her eyes go wide with the contact, as though he body were on fire. She looks at me, looks through me. She tries to speak, but she can't; his grip is strong and she can't breathe. I feel the sting of tears on my face now as I shake my head. She thinks it's me, but no, no, it's not me. It can't be. I can't be him...I won't ever be him...

When it's done she lies still, perfect, with the look of horror forever frozen on her face. He looks down at her, reaches a hand to her lifeless form. I yell before he can touch her. He looks up at me silently, tears streaming down his face. Then he disappears, because without her he doesn't exist.

One day I will be the man going back to talk to myself as a child. I will be there to comfort, to heal, and I will do my best never to reveal that I am a monster on the inside. Then one day I too will force my younger self to undo what I have done. Maybe then I too will cease to exist.

JOHN

By Joshua James Gervais

BUY CHARLIE MARTIN'S NEW NOVEL, SHADOWSLAYERS.

GARYL SHADOWSLAYER IS ONE OF THE MOST POTENT WIZARDS IN THE EMPIRE OF BLACKWOOD, BUT HE IS POWERLESS TO SAVE HIS WIFE, KAJEEL, FROM THE ANCIENT DRAGON-GOD DERREZEN. GARYL SET OFF THE FACE THE ANCIENT DRAGON KNOWING HE WILL LOSE, WHILE KAJEEL GOES ON HER OWN JOURNEY IN THE AFTERLIFE.

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A CATCHER, A SHORTSTOP, AND A BRAWL

By John Hickey

The 2004 Boston Red Sox would end up winning the World Series, but not before an important game on a warm July afternoon. This game was arguably the turning point for the season. It was the top of the 3rd inning and Alex Rodriguez (A-Rod) of the New York Yankees was batting. He took an inside pitch off the backside thrown by Boston pitcher Bronson Arroyo; that was all it took for the rivalry to revive itself and rear its ugly head.

A-Rod took exception to the pitch and began to shout angrily at Arroyo. He started to take a few steps towards the mound; as if to fight Arroyo. That is when IT happened. One of the unsung heroes of the Red Sox at the time, catcher Jason Varitek, stepped in front of A-Rod to protect his pitcher. These two beasts of men were eye to eye, jawing right in the others' face. The home plate umpire, Bruce Froemming, tried to step in between them; but he was no match for these two men. Then in a selfless act of courage, Varitek slammed his glove into A-Rod's face. Mayhem ensued.

Varitek and A-Rod wrestled to the ground, rolling in the dirt. Both benches cleared and players began to pick each-other out. Boston's Gabe Kapler and New York's Tanyon Sturtze began their own fight away from the main scrum. Kapler was soon joined by teammate Trot Nixon. They both began to fight with Sturtze. In the end, Sturtze walked away bleeding from his left ear.

The whole scrum took over ten minutes to settle down before the game could be resumed. After-all, it was only the 3rd inning, and the Red Sox were down by several runs.

The Red Sox mounted a comeback. Chipping away at the 7-2 deficit they were dealt early on in the game, they managed to pull within 2 runs, in the bottom of the 9th inning, with one on and two outs. David Ortiz (Big Papi) came up huge and cracked a homerun ball that seemed to disappear into the setting sun. The crowd went wild!

After a fairly uneventful 10th inning the Yankees scored a run in the top of the 11th which seemed to deflate the Fenway Faithful. From watching the game on TV, one could see the crowd slowly filing out. They would miss the comeback of the century.

Again there were two outs and one man on. Except this time around Bill Mueller was batting and Yankee closer Mariano Rivera was pitching. Rivera is quite possibly the most dominating closer of all time. With a four-seam fastball that reaches the middle 90's, a devastating cut fastball the forces left-handed hitters to violently swing and miss, and right-handed hitters to pop out, and a great change of pace changeup, he just has the touch of a superstar. However, on this July day, tension would get the best of the future Hall of Famer.

The switching hitting Mueller dug into the left-handed batters box in anticipation of the right handed throwing Rivera. Sweat beaded down both men's faces as they glared at each-other. Both men knew what they had to do. Rivera had to get Mueller out; Mueller had to get on base to give the man in the on deck circle a chance to hit. This duel was on.

Mueller managed to work the count in his favor. It was then that Rivera threw that 2-1 pitch. It was a cut- fastball; but it was right down Broadway. It was a hanging pitch right over the heart of the plate and Mueller took a wicked cut at it. He didn't miss.

The crowd rose to its feet as the ball seemed to just hang in the air; time stood still. The Yankee right fielder sprinted back towards the wall; but could do absolutely nothing. The ball touched down in the right filed bleachers above the bull pen. Fenway Park and all the surrounding area began to tremble. The decibel level was high enough to shatter an ear drum. The Red Sox had made an incredible come from behind victory off the bat of a man not known for his home run power.

Mueller shouted with excitement and pumped his fist as he rounded the bases. He was greeted by his over- joyed teammates at home plate. The entire Red Sox team (which ever ones were not thrown out during the brawl) jumped up and down and gave hard, open handed whacks to the top of the helmet of Mueller (oddly enough, when teammates do this, you did something really good).

The crowd stayed long after the game had ended; just to fully come to terms with what they had just witnessed. It was a game that featured a selfless Red Sox catcher going head- to- head with the most hated Yankee player of the time. Though severe fines and suspensions were handed out to both ball clubs, Boston walked away with two victories. They walked away with an important win, more than halfway through the season versus the most difficult division opponent. They also walked away with the moral satisfaction of beating the Yankees.

This game seemed to spark the Red Sox down the stretch. They won a Wild Card berth and would beat the Angels in the first round in three straight games. Then in a best of seven series, the Bronx Bombers and the BoSox would meet again. After the Yankees took the first three, Boston took the next four, which had never been done before. But this self titled "Idiot" team was destined for greatness. They won the World Series in four straight games against the Cardinals. They broke an 86- year- old curse. If you ask any of those 2004 Boston Red Sox what sparked them; they will all tell you the same thing; Varitek standing up for his pitcher on that warm, July afternoon.

UNTITLED

By Sean Hackman

"Dreams?" said the man, a stranger that happened to be sitting next to Jake at the bar. He looked like he was in his sixties with think lines of grey running through his black hair. He looked like a regular. Jake wouldn't know; he didn't drink much. But tonight he thought he needed "something to take the edge off." When Jake mentioned that he studied dream the man's watery grey eyes lit up. "If you want to know about dreams I've got a doozy of a dream for you.

"I'm struggling against an angry sea that attempts to smother me in its chilled embrace. I'm not sure if my eyes are open and there is nothing to see, or if my eyes are closed and I can not open them. Somehow I manage to free myself and break through the water's surface. The darkness is replaced by blinding light. I can't hold my breath any longer; I inhale and my lungs fill with fire."

"Fire?" said Jake. The smell of gin was heavy on the man's breath, but his voice didn't falter has he continued to recounted his dream.

"The surface of the water was on fire," said the man. "Those flames burnt everything but consuming nothing. In the distance through the fires I can see a see a shore; I pull my way through the water reaching out for some sort of relief. I'm tossed back and forth by waves that force me down into the icy depth and then back up into the inferno. I crawl my way out of the water. I stand and finally I can see clearly. As far as I can see are angels rising out of this sea of fire with black their wings stained black from the fire and soot."

"That's a rather–poetic dream," said Jake. "But I'm a neurologist. I study the mechanics of dreams not their content."

"There's more," said the man. "I looked back to see more figures falling in the water from high above. When I looked at my self I saw my body was covered with vicious looking cuts as if I had been in a battle."

"It sounds like Milton," said Jake. "But literature was never my strong point."

"It's my story," said the man. "Not something out of some book. Yeah, I did read Paradise Lost in college, but I've been having the dream since I was a kid."

"I really should be going anyway," said Jake. "I've got an early appointment scheduled and I still need to type up some reports. I just don't have the time to listen to more tonight."

"Come on," said the man. "I've never really told anyone about the dreams, but know that I've started I want to finish."

"Sorry." Jake's glass of beer still half full. "I don't have the time."

* * *

Jake started to walk the three blocks from the bar to his apartment. He looked behind to make sure the old man didn't follow him. "What a kook. I've never told anyone this before. I bet he tells that story to every person he can get to listen. Well I've got better things to do with my time."

Jake stepped off the curb to cross the street; it was a quiet night and he had only seen a handful of cars on the street. He didn't hear the rumble of an engine. He was completely unaware of the 1992 Ranger pickup when collided with him, sending him flying down the street.

* * *

Jake stood on an abandon stretch of highway in the middle of a featureless plane. The sun peeked out from the edge of the horizon, turning the sky pale shade of red like blood in water.

"Where am I?" said Jake. "Kansas?"

"You already know or at least you think you do." Jake turn to meet the voice; he saw the old man from the bar, dressed in an exquisitely tailored suit made of red velvet. "You hit your head. Maybe you've suffered a concussion. At this moment you're unconscious lying in a road. Your brain might be hemorrhaging. You could be leaking cerebrospinal fluid. You might even have a chunk of your skull lodged in your brain."

"You're not scaring me," said Jake.

"You know enough about the human brain that I don't have to do say much; you know what sorts of punishment it can go through."

"If what you're saying is correct," said Jake. "Then you're some sort of manifestation of my subconscious."

"Maybe I am."

"Maybe? I think it's fairly certain."

"But you could be wrong." The old man looks left and right as if he's checking to see if he's being watched. "You're not as close to god you think."

"What's that suppose to mean?"

"I mean what I say and say what I mean. If you can't make the proper realizations then you'll never be free."

"I'm not going to be lectured by myself."

"I never said I was you. Pride is a sin. Do you even know what may name is?"

"I could care less." Jake turns and walks away from the old man.

"I know. That's the problem."

* * *

Jake sat up in his hospital bed; his head felt like it was filled with gauze. He looked around to confirm to himself that he was indeed in a hospital. After a few minutes a nurse entered; to Jake she looked like a large white blur.

"You should lie back down," said the nurse. "You need to rest after your ordeal."

"So it did happen?" said Jake.

"What happened?" said the nurse.

"The car," said Jake. "I was hit by a car."

"That's not what it says on your chart," said the nurse. "And you certainly don't look like you've been in a car accident."

"Then what happened to me?" said Jake.

"The doctor will be in to see you shortly," said the nurse.

"I am a doctor," said Jake. "Tell me what happened."

"An old man brought you in," said the nurse. "He said you had too much to drink and you passed out. We had to pump your stomach."

"That's not what happened at all. I was hit by a car."

Moments Like This: Spring Fever

By TRISH PENNYPACKER
CRITIC COLUMNIST

Spring fever is a curious thing. All creatures get it. Growing up on a dairy farm, I always laughed when the cows were let out to pasture for the first time after a long winter of being tied to stanchions. These large, awkward moving bovines, would crowd together as they pushed their way through the barn doors. One sniff of fresh air and they were off, skipping (yes, even bovines try to skip) and trotting through the muddy fields. They flicked their tails, kicked their back legs high, and bellowed moos of freedom.

My dogs are doing the same thing. Usually when I arrive home, my dogs are whining and jumping all over me. Since spring has graced the air, they are too busy scouring the fields for mice and moles to even realize that I am home. All day they run back and forth across the pasture, leaping high above the dead grass and over scattered patches of snow, curiously exploring.

Yesterday I watched a pair of bluebirds perch on a nearby branch; I counted the deer as they stepped into the field for a morning meal; I took a warm walk through the bucket-strewn maple grove; and I listened to an owl hoot through the starry night. The deer stood by the side of the field, observing me, but unafraid. The birds bravely flitted around my body, not really caring if I was there or not. They were joining me in spring fever.

My kids' spring fever has developed into a fascination with mud. The muddier and ruttier the roads, the faster they want me to drive. While I am freaking out at the thought of repair bills if I hit one more pot hole or slide too far sideways down the slick road, they are bracing themselves in the backseat, hoping that the next bump I hit will lurch us into a record breaking jolt! And then, no matter how clean I try to keep my kids, and no matter where it is that we are going, they will find, preferably the largest, but even the smallest puddle to stomp in. I don't think that I will recognize my floors, my car, or my children as long as the mud remains.

But even as I try to bring some recognition to my home and my life, I am not complaining. I would rather hear the kid's laughter as they play touch-football in the mud and scattered spots of snow, than listen to them whining that they are bored and tired of being stuck inside. I would rather scrub the dark ring in the bathtub each evening, and know my kids are clean and snuggled into their beds, sleeping soundly from the fresh air and the energy they exerted while playing outside, than listen to them shout down that they can't sleep because they aren't tired. As long as they are able to play outside, they are always tired by bedtime, and because they were able to play outside, I am not as exhausted by the time I turn out the light.

It's strange that the scattered responsibilities of life don't seem as overwhelming when everything around us feels so alive. It is exciting to see life and energy unfold around me.

Slipping my bare feet into a pair of flip-flops, I prepare to walk a different path, a path that seemed too challenging in the cold and dark. Walking outside, I tiptoe around the mud as much as I can. I think of the word fever: "a state of heightened emotion and activity." I watch my kids slosh through the thick brown mud. They holler, "Hey, Mom! Catch!" I open my arms, ready for the pass. Splat! I wipe the mud speckles off of my face. They laugh and go back to their play. I continue my walk through the field, and in a burst of energy, I am ready for what is yet to come.

A World without Vonnegut

Famous author and literary genius leaves behind timeless pieces and fans

By ROBERT RUMRILL
CRITIC STAFF

That's it. Kurt Vonnegut is dead. We are all doomed, maybe even worse than we already were. With the death of acclaimed author Kurt Vonnegut on Wednesday night, I am forced out of this surreal state of assuming all is right in the world and forced into this dark, yet strangely humorous, world that Vonnegut so well described in his novels.

Although Vonnegut died at the age of 84, he did not die from the Pall Mall cigarettes he had been smoking since he was 12 years old. In an interview last summer with Rolling Stone magazine Vonnegut said he was going to sue Brown & Williamson, the manufacturing company responsible for Pall Mall cigarettes. When asked if it was because of lung cancer, he said "No, no. Because I'm 83 years old. The lying bastards! On the package Brown and Williamson promised to kill me."

Classic Vonnegut.

One of the greatest things about Vonnegut as an American writer is that he said things like they were. In the book Breakfast of Champions, he writes about the history of America:

"The teachers told the children that [1492] was when their continent was discovered by human beings. Actually, millions of human beings were already living full and imaginative lives on the continent in 1492. That was simply the year in which sea pirates began to cheat and rob and kill them....The sea pirates were white. The people who were already on the continent when the pirates arrived were copper-colored. When slavery was introduced onto the continent, the slaves were black. Color was everything."

This darkly humorous portrayal of the history of America is a much more accurate description of what probably happened at the time than what I was taught in grade school. As disturbing as it might be to read, I am glad that Vonnegut had the guts to point out truth and speak it without concern.

That is why Vonnegut is an author that we as humans cannot afford to forget about. In a world full of lies he was one of the few who spoke truth.

As I read as many articles as I could find in regards to Vonnegut's passing it seems like all of them spoke of an author that had made an impact in the 60s and 70s without really mentioning how relevant his work is even today. Whether or not critics are ready to admit it, Vonnegut is one of the few timeless authors that not only defined a generation, but defined the beauty and the heartache that is the human condition.

The author and his brother Bernard in the summer of 1978

Obviously I must end with the Vonnegut quote from his novel, Hocus Pocus:

"Just because some of us can read and write and do a little math, that doesn't mean we deserve to conquer the universe."

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Editor Wanted

The Critic, Lyndon State College's student newspaper, is seeking a dynamic and talented individual to lead the publication for the 2007/2008 academic year.

The editor is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the newspaper, both print and online. He or she manages the staff and makes assignments, and represents the newspaper to the public and the Student Government Association. The editor is responsible for all editorial, design and budgetary decisions.

The ideal candidate will be a full-time LSC student with a GPA of 2.5 or better. He or she will have previous Critic experience and display superior writing and copy editing ability. The ideal candidate will know how to manage people and finances.

Please submit a letter of application outlining your qualifications for the position and your vision for The Critic, a resume and clips of your work to:

Dan Williams
Critic adviser
Vail 468

The deadline is noon April 27.

Lady Hornets softball coach resigns, Kirchoff takes over

By ANDREW R. KOCH
CRITIC STAFF

Head softball coach Leigh Chamberlain resigned just days before the softball season started over spring break. Jennifer Kirchoff has taken over as the head coach, with Craig Simpson and Kirsten Simpson staying on as assistant coaches.

Rumors had been circulating around campus that Chamberlain had left due to accusations of harassment, but both players and Athletic Director Chris Ummer alike dispelled those rumors.

"Leigh resigned for personal reasons. It had to do with a lot of things on his plate," Ummer said. "(That rumor) is absolutely false. Those are rumors for you." Ummer added that while the timing for Chamberlain's departure wasn't ideal, he did praise Chamberlain for making LSC's softball program into what it is now.

"The timing was unfortunate. He resigned without much fanfare, which is unfortunate because he put so much of his own time, money and physical labor into the softball program in five years. Our field is the best that our players will ever play on, because Leigh was so meticulous in working on a softball field."

Ummer also expressed great confidence in Kirchoff's abilities as a coach.

"We have a good person to take the reigns in Jenn Kirchoff. We're real lucky to have her," Ummer said.

The players had a slightly different reaction to the sudden coaching change just five days before their season-opening tournament at Skidmore College.

"We didn't realize how much of a distraction it would be until after we got back from Skidmore," junior captain Angel Phelps said. "We had Craig and Kirsten at Skidmore, so it wasn't much of a distraction."

"It was a lot different. It was adjusting, and not knowing what was going to happen," senior infielder Erika Fuller said.

Phelps added that the season wouldn't quite be the same now that the change has taken place.

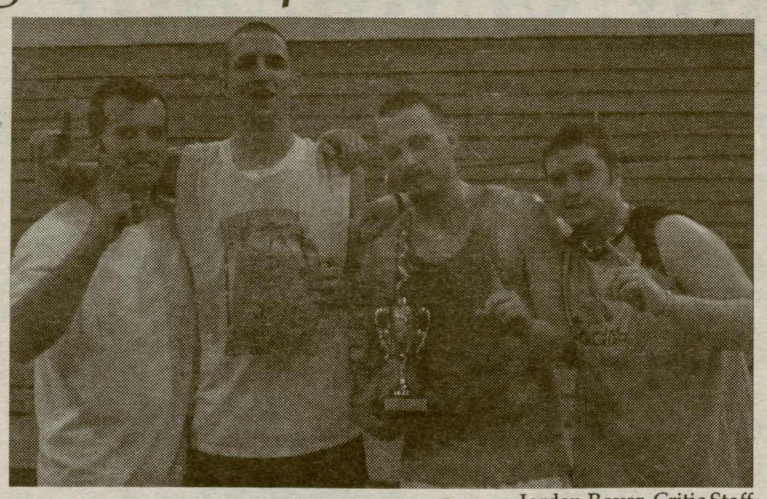
"It's definitely different. Practices have been much different. Jenn's very positive. She played under Leigh for three years. Having a familiar face made it easier. Having someone new come in would've been dreadful," Phelps said.

"Almost everyone on the team has played with Jenn," Fuller said. "With everything we've gone through, we've become closer as a team."

The effects of the coaching change will become clearer once the team is able to take the field more often, as their already short season is being cut even shorter by this year's snowy spring. So far, initial reactions from the players seem to be positive toward the coaching change.

Team D-Rocks dominates in second annual Kingdom Cup Tournament

By JORDAN ROYER
CRITIC STAFF



Jordan Royer, Critic Staff

Team D-Rocks Brent Fowler, Brad Durr, Derek Fortier, and Michael Thibault recently won the Kingdom Cup championship.

It seemed all too easy for Team D-Rocks as they waltzed through the second annual Quest for the Kingdom Cup undefeated, claiming the trophy with a win over Team Voltron.

The teams may have been just a little unfair. Team D-Rocks had Kingdom Cup reigning champion Derek Fortier, USCAA All-American Brad Durr, Hornet basketball captain Brent Fowler and sharp-shooting Michael Thibault.

"I am very proud of my team and myself for being able to put together another championship team," Fortier said. "I am especially proud about the fact that I was able to win with a completely different team."

The double elimination tournament had eight teams vying for the coveted title of Kingdom Cup champs. The games were played to 11 with teams having to win by two. Baskets were worth one point except from beyond the arc, which was worth two and the players were responsible for making foul calls.

Team Earl and Team Voltron faced off in the loser's bracket final with the winner earning the right to face the awaiting D-Rocks.

In front of a crowded Stannard Gymnasium, the two teams battled to an excited finish. Kali Stoddard-Imari, Team Voltron, sealed the victory as he muscled his way over Jamal Lawson for the lay-in.

With the victory, the championship was set. Team Voltron, consisting of Stoddard-Imari, Sam Ninh and Andrew Longley, looked to double dip Team D-Rocks and take home the Kingdom Cup trophy.

Voltron's fatigue was evident in the championship match as the fresh legs of D-Rocks proved too much. Durr hit the game winner, from long range, to seal the victory for D-Rocks.

"I definitely plan on not only participating, but winning again next year," Fortier said.

LSC in Action: Rugby club plays hard during a recent game

Hornets baseball swept in two doubleheaders

By JAKE MARDIN
CRITIC STAFF

The LSC baseball team had a rough two day stretch, losing both games of two doubleheaders on Tuesday and Wednesday.

In Colchester on Tuesday, the Hornets were swept by St. Michael's College, losing to the Purple Knights 11-7 in the first game. Right-handed senior Jesse Hersey was charged with the loss, giving up seven runs. St. Michael's Junior Kyle Gingras pitched 5 2/3 innings to earn the win. Sophomore Ricky Hubbard was able to work his way out of a bases loaded situation to get the save.

At the plate, LSC senior Adrian Guyer had a single and a double while junior Rob Malloy had a triple. St. Michael's junior Evan Grenier had a single and a triple to bring home two runs. He also scored two runs, while John Kunkel also had two RBI to go with his three singles.

In the night game, the Hornets got the game-tying run in the seventh inning off of a single by Rob Malloy, but still ended up with the loss after the game was called because of darkness, which meant the score at the end of the last complete inning would stand. As a result, the Hornets lost 6-5 in six innings.

LSC lefty Matthew Picard took the loss, although he pitched a complete game and struck out six St. Michael's batters. Matt Beaulieu pitched five innings and earned the win, while Mike Robert picked up the save.

LSC freshman Jake Ainsworth picked up a single and reached home plate twice. The Purple Knights scored all six of its runs in the second inning, capped of by a two-run home run by Greg McLaughlin.

The following day in Plattsburgh, NY, the Hornets faced Plattsburgh State University, losing 1-0 in the first game and 6-4 in the second game. The first game saw the Cardinals' Matt Kelley taking a perfect game into the sixth inning until LSC junior Matt Lapham broke it up with a single. That was the highlight of the Hornet's offensive production as the only other hit Kelley allowed was a bunt single en route to striking out nine LSC batters.

In the second game, the Hornet's offense had a better showing, belting out 11 hits, with Lapham, senior Josh Wells, and junior Dylan Barton each having two hits. Sophomore Adam Pelletier also contributed with two RBI.

Panic Prone at Spring Day
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The Critic

Serving the student voice of the Northeast Kingdom

Earth Week
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Lyndonville, Vermont | Friday, April 20, 2007 | Volume 53, Number 18

LSC reacts to Virginia Tech shootings

A shocked community met to address ways the campus could prevent a similar situation from happening

By JOSHUA DAMASO AND KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
CRITIC STAFF

"They could try [mental evaluations] out, see if it works for a while. But I think it might be imposing on their privacy."said freshman Denis Nunez as a solution for future situations.

If nothing else, the Virginia Tech shootings last Monday reminded students that "it'll never happen here" has become an obsolete thought for educational facilities.

On Tuesday, school officials set up an LSC community meeting to discuss the shootings, the media coverage it has received, and how LSC can prevent such a thing from happening on its own grounds.

While most participants felt people are too unpredictable to completely guarantee on-campus protection, all agreed that Virginia Tech may have handled things the wrong way from the time the first shot was fired.

"The campus would be closed," said Residence Hall Director Jonathan Davis, speaking of how LSC would handle the news of a shooting. Davis noted that Virginia Tech did not close campus until two hours after the first shootings were reported, in which time some 31 people were fatally shot.

Associate Dean of Students Leo Sevigny, who called the meeting, expressed his own displeasure in the amount of media coverage the shootings were receiving. Sevigny said he could see how constant exposure to the rampage could take its toll on students dealing with questions about breakdowns in campus safety.

"I would think a student, while you're watching this coverage, would think 'how is this happening?'" he said.

President Carol Moore, who remained mostly quiet throughout the meeting, expressed the need for LSC students and staff to remain hopeful that they will never have to face a similar situation.

"Let's all hope we don't have to answer that question," she said.

Daisy McCoy, professor of Mathematics, was not at the meeting, but did graduate from Virginia Tech in 1990. McCoy found out about the shooting when a friend e-mailed her condolences. To find out what the condolences were for "I went online like everybody does with these things."

"You hear about these things, but it's more personal when you know where it happened," McCoy said.

The only person McCoy has kept contact with from Virginia Tech is her adviser. The shooting occurred on a different part of the campus than McCoy or her adviser frequented.

"I thought about it for a little bit and just went back to work," McCoy said, describing her reaction after feeling the initial horror. "There's nothing you can do about it."

"My sense is that we have very good security here," McCoy said, in regards to her feelings of how safe LSC is.

Punishment:

One of the biggest problems students have found themselves facing is that of justice. One LSC senior, Dillon Eliason, said what bothers him most about the massacre is the way the shooter, 23-year-old English major Cho Seung-Hui, avoided true punishment by committing suicide.

"They could try [mental evaluations] out, see if it works for a while," said freshman Denis Nunez. "But I think it might be imposing on their privacy."

Nunez added that justice isn't necessarily as important as finding ways to accommodate the families of the victims, and families of shooters shouldn't be held accountable.

"As far as justice goes, there's really nothing that can be done. He's dead. His family shouldn't be held accountable. I don't think it's fair the parents be vindicated for something their child did."

Emergency procedures:

Inevitably, when any incident of student safety hits the national news scene, questions of school safety procedures bombard campuses around the country. For LSC, these measures have been thoughtfully planned out by administrators for several years, and currently there is a revamped emergency procedure book in the works. Sometime during the summer, faculty and staff are expected to be trained on the newest emergency procedures before the new book is fully implemented for the fall 2007 semester.

"It's still in draft form, but we're hoping to have it prepared and ready over the summer," said Dean of Institutional Advancement Bob Whittaker. "More or less the plan we have prepares us for most situations."

Exact procedures to be printed in the new book are kept private due to safety concerns, but Whittaker said he feels confident that LSC is adequately prepared for incidents ranging from bomb threats and fires to those similar to what happened at Virginia Tech.

"I feel as an institution we're capable and ready to respond," he said, noting the quick and successful response of public safety groups after last semester's murder/suicide in Lyndonville.

But Whittaker did admit that as thorough as the school's emergency plans are, the best scenario is the one that doesn't happen at all.

"In the last year it's become more evident that we need to be prepared for what was just 12 months ago unthinkable," he said. "We just hope for the best."

Today a gathering for the victims, families, and friends will be held at 12:00 p.m in the Alexander Twilight Theatre.

Student Perspectives:

How would you want LSC to respond if a similar situation like the one at Virginia Tech happened on our campus?

Jim Therrien
Senior, Ski Resort Management
"I think our smaller size would help us respond quicker. I think it is one of those things where you think it can't happen here but it could happen anywhere."

Kerrin Wilmarth
Senior, Television Studies
"I think it would [be controlled] easier here because a lot of kids are from Lyndon Rescue and they all have walkie-talkies to spread the news around. Since we are such a small school I don't want to say we'd handle it better but we'd probably be faster."

Dan Crowley
Freshman Television Studies
"I remember when there was a shooting down town. There was a lock down right away. I think that it being a smaller campus it would be a little easier for them to react to something."

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Student's discuss techniques to surviving a bad date

By DILLON ELIASSEN
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

The girl you've been admiring from afar at the office actually said yes when you asked her to go out with you. It's almost closing time on Wednesday, and the two of you agreed to meet at McLowery's for a couple of drinks on Friday night. You think she's beautiful and can hardly wait for the big date; you plan out your conversation with her while dodging in and out of traffic during rush hour Wednesday night, and once home you pick out what you'll wear for your Friday rendezvous.

At work on Thursday, you tell your buddy that sits near the fax machine that you've got a date with the girl a few cubicles down from you. That's when you learn from your buddy that the object of your desire is "high maintenance." He tells you that she's demanding, prissy, and highly emotional. You're stomach feels funny, and you're head starts to spin. Your buddy advises you to cancel the date with her, but you don't want to for fear that what he's said about her is just idle office gossip. You tell him you're still going on the date, and walk back to your desk. "Good luck," he calls after you. Once back at your cubicle, you wonder what you're going to do if Friday night turns into a bad date. There are a lot of ways to survive, or get out of, a bad date.

Another popular method used by women is to share life changing plans with the man on the date. "Talk about marriage," Samantha Guilmette suggests. "And having a lot of kids right away."

Matthew Wojcik has some suggestions if you know you're not going to like the person you're going out with. You could fake an injury. Nobody wants to go on a first date with someone who is moaning and complaining about his recently broken leg. But a broken limb might get you some sympathy, so it's better to fake a sickness, rather than a physical injury. Wojcik also suggests eating a shellfish or seafood appetizer, and by the time the entrée comes, complain of stomach pains and nausea.

"Say you're sick and leave the table," Wojcik says. "On your way to the bathroom, tell your waiter that you'll be leaving the restaurant, and ask him to bring the check to the table."

Wojcik says that to make your sickness seem real, you should stay in the bathroom for an inappropriately long time. "And if she should happen to pay the bill while she's waiting for you…even better."

Being sick is a popular excuse people use to get out of a bad date. "I usually say I have a really bad headache and have to lie down," Elaine Harrigan said.

Another popular method used by women is to share life changing plans with the man on the date. "Talk about marriage," Samantha Guilmette suggests. "And having a lot of kids right away."

"One time I told a guy I just found out I was pregnant," Gina McHugh said. "I never heard from him again."

Communicating is very important when in a relationship with a woman. If you don't want to get into a relationship with a particular woman, keep the conversation one-way. "Change the subject whenever she starts talking about something," Jamal Brown said. "Talk about something else, and get really excited about what you're saying so she can't get a word in."

Travis Chapman thinks drinking a lot is the best way to get through a bad date. "Start drinking heavily, and be as crass as possible," Chapman advises. "Get enough alcohol in you and you're going to start running your mouth if you don't like who you're with. Either that or you'll wake up in her bed the next morning."

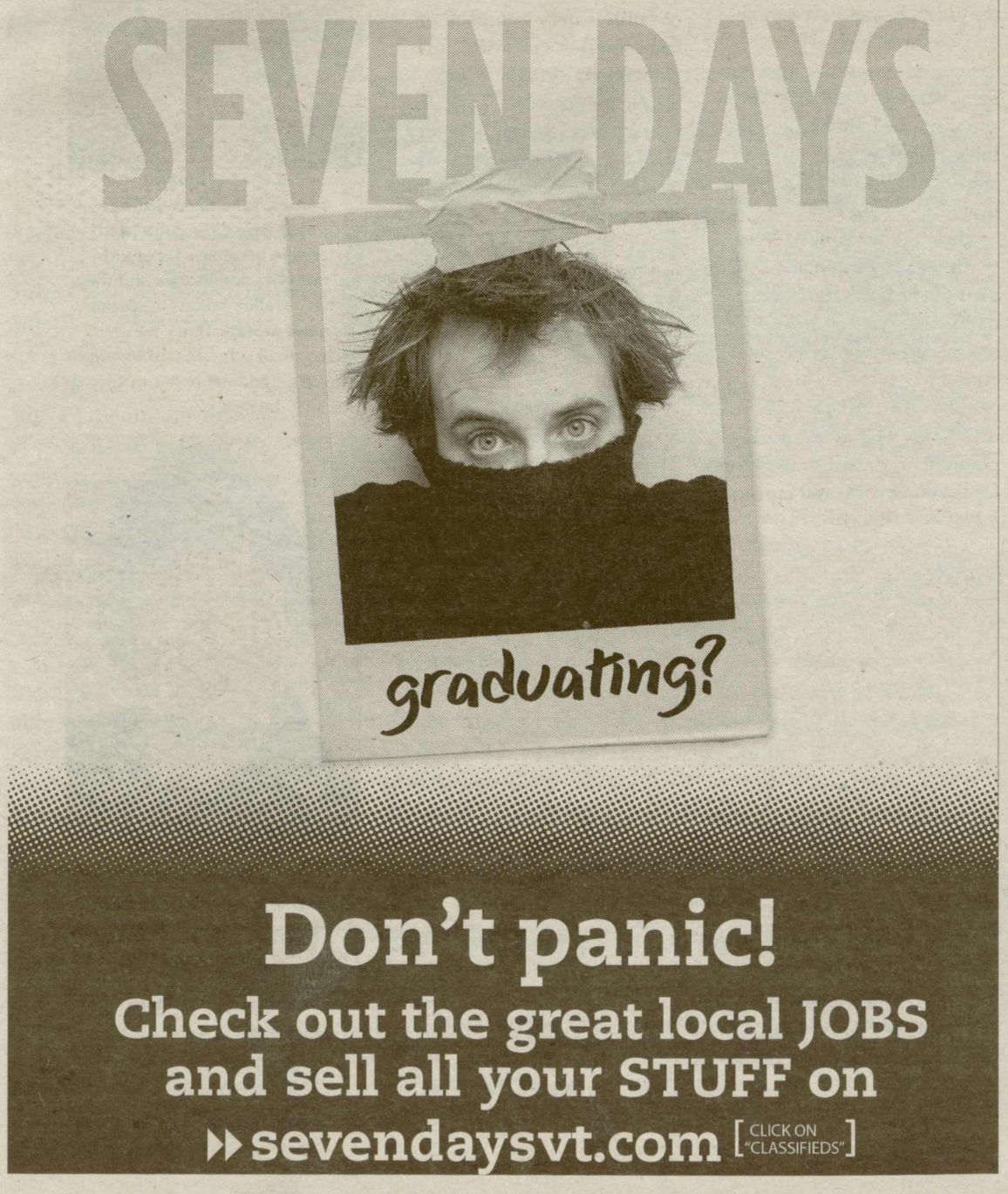
The consumption of alcohol and the abrupt exit seems to be a popular theme when people are trying to get through, or get out of, a bad date. Julie Fowler was on a date with a guy who got drunk "and really annoying" early on in the night. "I said to him 'This isn't working out for me' and I just got up and left," Fowler remembers.

Willis Stroop was at a bar with a co-worker when he decided he didn't want to be there, or with her, any longer. "I was supposed to give her a ride home, but I just took off."

You don't have to be with just one other person to be on a bad date; some people have had to get through bad double dates. Glen Scannell was on a double date with a friend of his, and they decided to switch halfway through the date. "My friend knew them both and at one point the girls talked about who they liked better, and we switched," Scannell recalls.

Sometimes bad double dates don't get resolved so smoothly. Oriana Guindon was on a double date and didn't like the guy her friend was going with. "He was really obnoxious and self-centered," Guindon said. "So I convinced her that we should leave." Needless to say, Guindon's date ended when her friend's did.

But the most popular way people have responded to the question "how do you survive a bad date?" is by the use of cell phones. Faking an incoming cell phone call and telling your date of an emergency you have to respond to is what many people have said, including some of those quoted in this story. Perhaps this shows that cell phones are not only useful for creating and maintaining meaningful social relationships, it can also be used to end awkwardness.



LSC Calender of Events

April 25
"Freedom Writers," movie in Student Center, 9:00 – 11:00 p.m.

April 26
Meg Allison (Nashville musician), Student Center, 9:00 – Midnight

April 27 & 28
"Cabaret," Alexander Twilight Theatre

April 28 & 29
Wilderness First Aid Training, Bole Community Room Saturday – 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. & Sunday – 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (registration required; call 626-6346)

April 28 & 29
Basketball Tournament, Stannard and Bole Gyms, 7:30 a.m. 9:00 p.m.

April 30
Snowsports Utah presentation, LSC Library Reference Area, noon – 12:30 p.m.

May 1
LSC Student Guitar & Band Concert, Alexander Twilight Theatre, 1:00 p.m.

May 4
Athletic Banquet, Stevens Dining Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Moments Like This: A Glimpse of Kindness

By TRISH PENNYPACKER
CRITIC COLUMNIST

A flat tire and a broken axel was how I came to find myself stranded on a deserted stretch of endless highway somewhere between Georgia and the Florida line. With three kids, my husband, a dog, and a cat in tow, and nothing but the broken asphalt of US 1 and the brown grass of late autumn in sight, I was anxious.

The kids were whining to get out and play, and the cat and dog were trying to bolt each time a hand ventured near the door handle. I didn't know how much longer I could keep them all from bolting, and the thought of the snakes and fire ants and sand spurs that might be hidden in the dead grass, kept me firm in my decision that we wait inside the Jeep.

After nearly an hour of making up stories and letting the kids eat all of the candy that I had in my purse, they were growing tired and I was growing desperate.

Fortunately, a rusty red pickup barreled towards us. I could see it coming for nearly seven miles due to the straight, flat plain of the countryside. Holding my breathe, I prayed for help, but did not hope for such. I was used to Northern drivers staring absently as they passed my occasional stranded self, in a cloud of disregard. Why should this time be any different? But it was.

A curious, gracious, weathered soul of a man saw our situation and not only drove the thirteen miles to the nearest town, and back, to purchase a new axle and tire, but he helped fix it, invited us to dinner at his place (his wife made the best southern biscuits and gravy) and told my husband that if he ever needed work, he "had connections."

This man was my first glimpse into the portal of Southern hospitality. As I continued through the South, everyone was curious as to who I was and what I had to talk about. They shared their stories and their lives with me.

In a new home, so far away from my homeland, I was rarely lonely. When I started to feel a bit blue, a trip to the grocery store was often enough to cheer me up. There, I was guaranteed to strike up a conversation with a new mom, a bubble-gum chewing kid, or a chatty older woman. I could smile at people without having them avert their eyes. I could say, "Hello," and gain a cheery response.

Here, back in the heart of my homeland, I will pass the same people days upon days at a time. Trying to conjure even the slightest smile from a great lot of them is like trying to make my son love broccoli. It just isn't happening.

It is odd that strangers can have more to say to each other than common acquaintances. You would think that in the hustle and bustle of college life there would be something to talk about with the classmate that, like you, has arrived to class early, or is standing beside you in line at the cafeteria. But more often than not, we stick our nose in a book as we wait for someone we know to arrive, and stick our noses up as we walk past people in the hallways, stopping to talk only to those we know fairly well.

Entering college life as a non-traditional student, I understand the lack of time there is to develop new friendships since many of us have families, jobs, sports, and committees that we are juggling alongside of our course load. What I don't understand is why a simple smile or a hello seems so difficult for so many people.

The gracious southerner that freed us from our stranded despair did not expect anything in return. He simply enjoyed the people that he passed along the way.

My kids don't expect anything in return either. They are quick to walk up to a child they don't know and say, "Hey, what's your name?" because that is what kids do. They are just looking for someone to share a quick laugh with, or a run through the playground.

Somewhere after childhood, the innocence of a "Hello" has disappeared. Many men and women are afraid that a hello might imply false interest or they are afraid that a hello might be snubbed.

Maybe aside from the false interest, who cares if you are snubbed? One friendly person passing through the halls is far more cheerful than a crowd of expressionless people. By showing a glimpse of kindness, in an act so simple as a greeting, or a smile, we might actually make the world a nicer place.

A sense of friendliness seems lost in today's society

Dear Editor:

Walking through the hallways at this point of my life I keep a smile on my face, even though people pass by with frowns on their faces. I wonder what has happened to the friendly society of my dreams?

It seems that people are not happy, friendly, or easy going anymore. It's like they are uptight, or just don't know how to communicate. This is not just my opinion, but others' as well. Often, when I'm talking to people these same questions are brought up. It doesn't even matter if I know them or not. Where could their joyfulness be, I ask myself, is it gone?

Millions and millions of people use all the new technologies to communicate and get around. There is fewer one on one or even huge gatherings anymore. In a way society has lost its true meaning. It's not just the computer though. It's what revolves around technology itself, simple programs like games that never end. There are millions of Myspace files and Youtube videos that people get lost in. There's also cell phone madness, with people always talking to someone they can't even see. This is not what bothers me, though. It is that people rather communicate without seeing you so they can just turn you off like a TV.

I travel around Vermont hitchhiking because cars and gas cost way too much for my pocket. I find people just fly by me most of the time, but the worst is when they wave, smile or point their fingers in some weird direction. Why can I get to a place in the same amount of time hitchhiking as I can by driving myself? Is it that people feel bad or is it their good deed for the day? Is there love out there still, but people have no place to put it or use it?

Hitchhiking is like one of America's latest taboos. To me, sex, drugs, rudeness and crazy controlling governments like our own appear in everything we look at and do. When people stop to pick me up they are 99.9 percent of the time a nice person. There seems to be this boundary that breaks down this unhappiness of society when I travel by hitchhiking. Sometimes someone just wants to talk to someone, or they have been there before. But still there is fear that seems to make people run away from friendly faces.

Really, how can we change this unhappy society, and this fog of fear in people?

Do we need to burn up all the oil in this world to help get rid of all this unnecessary technology? Plain and simple, can we just take five minutes a day out of our own time to start a conversation with a new face?

Can we just say hello to friendly fellows? Maybe someday we might find our true happy self when we look each other in the eyes.

Chris Morash

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Staff: Caleb Byerly, Joshua Damaso, Sarah Donaghy, Jacob Mardin, Jessica Millhiser, Jordan Royer, Robert Rumrill, Danielle Sykes.

Adviser: Dan Williams

critic@lyndonstate.edu

Editor Wanted

The Critic, Lyndon State College's student newspaper, is seeking a dynamic and talented individual to lead the publication for the 2007/2008 academic year.

The editor is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the newspaper, both print and online. He or she manages the staff and makes assignments, and represents the newspaper to the public and the Student Government Association. The editor is responsible for all editorial, design and budgetary decisions.

The ideal candidate will be a full-time LSC student with a GPA of 2.5 or better. He or she will have previous Critic experience and display superior writing and copy editing ability. The ideal candidate will know how to manage people and finances.

Please submit a letter of application outlining your qualifications for the position and your vision for The Critic, a resume and clips of your work to:

Dan Williams
Critic adviser
Vail 468

The deadline is noon April 27.

Students cope with challenges of classwork and children

By DILLON ELIASSEN
Critic Correspondent

It was towards the end of Cheryl Williamson's second year at LSC when a female student she had never met before walked by her and commented, "Oh my god, what a skank."

This personal insult from a stranger hurt Cheryl. She wasn't dressed like a "skank," nor did she have a bad reputation; she was nine months pregnant. "I felt people were watching me," Cheryl remembers. "But nobody knew my story."

Cheryl says that a lot of people she had classes with assumed she was a pregnant, and single, 18-year-old freshman. The truth was Cheryl was a 23-year-old sophomore and had been dating the father of her child, Sterling Denby, when she learned she was pregnant.

When she found out she was expecting she was already enrolled to start school the next spring, and was working two jobs. After starting at LSC, Cheryl learned quickly that some of her classmates had negative opinions of her. "Appearances are important when you're in college," Cheryl said.

Self-conscience of her figure due to the "skank" comment, Cheryl would wear loose fitting clothing to hide her size. Because of that, one of her professors didn't realize she was pregnant until after Cheryl told him she might miss the upcoming test in his class because she was due to give birth.

For Cheryl, the hardest part of being a student with a child wasn't when she actually became a mother, but when she was pregnant. There were other conflicts from being pregnant in school, besides the harsh judgments of her classmates. It was difficult juggling time between school work and the two jobs she had at the time. Another difficulty was the inconsideration some students had for her physical condition.

Toward the end of her pregnancy, when she was at her biggest, a special desk was brought in for her to use in one of her classes. Unfortunately, an overweight male student would take it every day, because he would get to class before Cheryl.

Her daughter, Anysa, was born on Halloween in 2002. The name means "Gracious one," or "One with the fairies." While she was pregnant, Cheryl would watch the ending credits of movies to help her pick out a name for Anysa. "When we heard it, we both instantly liked it," Cheryl said.

After Anysa was born, Cheryl felt less self-conscience, but her life was still as hectic as when she was pregnant. Never one to miss class, or even be late to one, Cheryl would meet Sterling in the parking lot at school between classes to breast feed Anysa. She was still working over 40 hours a week and going to school full time.

Sterling was also working full time, and the two of them did their best to find enough time for everything. When Cheryl was asked what was hardest, working full time, going to school full time, or being a new mother, Sterling laughs from the kitchen, "Taking care of me."

While Cheryl and I talk, Sterling makes strawberry shortcake for Anysa, and then draws a bath for her. While the tub fills, Anysa hums to herself as she eats her dessert, sitting on the floor next to Cheryl. Cheryl thinks for a second and says, "It's definitely easier having a job than going to school." Her work schedule is more flexible than her school schedule was, which makes it easier for her and Sterling to care for Anysa.

Initially, taking care of Anysa took its toll on Cheryl's schoolwork. She failed two classes the semester after Anysa was born. "I was completely devastated," Cheryl said. But she refused to use Anysa as an excuse.

Another student mother in one of Cheryl's classes would sometimes come to class late, or hadn't completed her homework, and would say she didn't have time because she was taking care of her child. Cheryl did not want to use Anysa to get out of what was required of her. "I didn't want a professor to let me slide through because of my situation," she said. "I wanted to do it on my own." Cheryl remembers many nights staying up late doing homework after Sterling and Anysa had gone to bed.

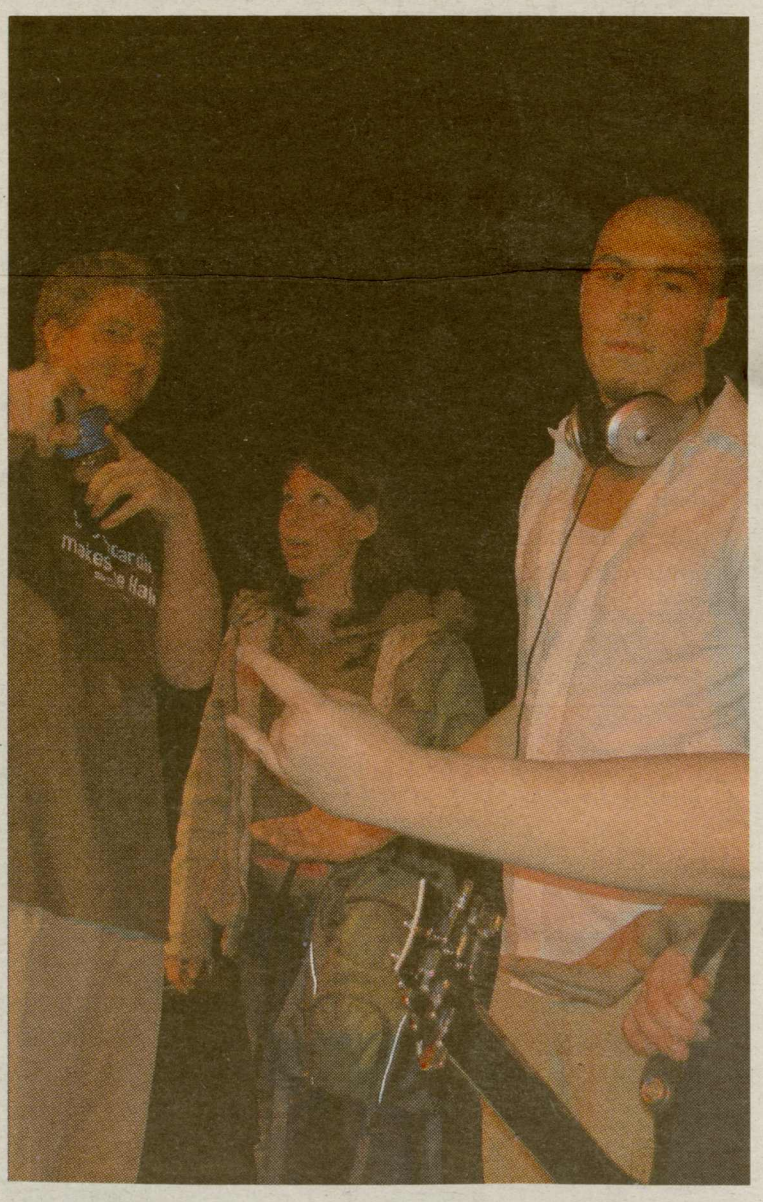
After her rocky spring semester, Cheryl buckled down, and managed to graduate from LSC in four years, with Bachelor degrees in Accounting, Business Administration, Small Business and Entrepreneurship, and a minor in Marketing, in May of 2005. She now works for the Wildflower Inn, working at the front desk, and on marketing the inn and restaurant to new and returning customers.

"It's really important to give back to the community," Cheryl says. "That's one of the reasons why I love my job."

One of the most important parts of being a mother for Cheryl, is being a role model for Anysa. Cheryl's mother left when she was young, and so Cheryl wants to make sure she is always there for Anysa. Cheryl is the youngest of seven siblings, and the first to graduate college. "I try to be a role model to Anysa," Cheryl said. "If she sees me doing homework, hopefully she'll do her homework."

LSC's Panic Prone performed at the Student Government's annual Spring Day

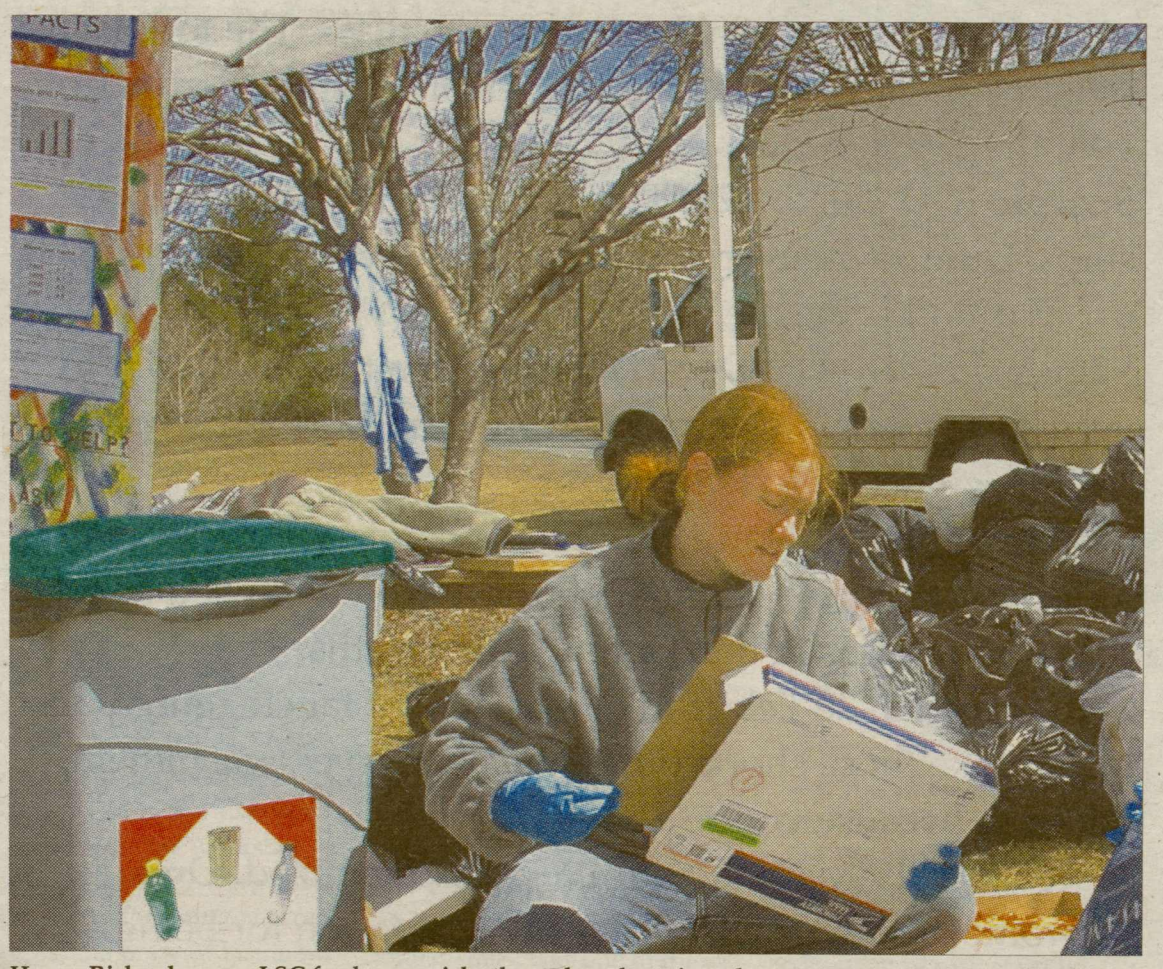
Ben Lambert, an LSC sophomore, warms up before the show.



Austin Rumsey, bass guitarist, and Chris Arsenault, mingle with fans after the show. Below left: Spring has finally arrived as students choose bikes instead of cars as means to getting around.
Photos by Andrew Koch and Tabitha Fitzgerald.

RAMUNTO'S
BRICK OVEN PIZZA
A New York Pizza Family
1216 Railroad Street
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819
802 751-8500

LSC Celebrates Earth Week April 16-20



Hanna Richardson, an LSC freshman, picks through garbage in order to sort out categories of trash that the LSC campus produces.

Joe Reedy, an LSC sophomore organizes bags of sorted trash into categories to be later added for a grand total of trash amounts.

Elise Fernandez, an LSC freshman, speaks to students about Organic vs. Non-organic products as a part of her Leadership, Theory and Practice class. The table provided free food, pamphlets, information, and various organic products.

Members of Students for Campus Conservation (SCC) "Get Trashed" Wednesday afternoon. Rebecca Paskell, an LSC freshman, and Kurt Heinchon, an LSC junior, weigh campus trash to come up with a total weight for the trash that the LSC campus produces on a daily basis.

Above: An LSC student takes a break from classes to participate in Organic vs. Non-Organic. Left: Lithium batteries get pulled out of trash bags and sorted into separate categories.

Photos by Tabitha Fitzgerald, Critic Staff.

Sudoku

	7		1	5				3
4	5						1	
	9	3		8		6		5
3	6		7				8	4
		8				2		6
		4			5		3	1
			3					
	3	1		2				9
	4				1		5	8

HOW TO PLAY-Fill in all the blank squares with the correct numbers. Every row, column, and 3 by 3 subsection must include all digits 1-9.

Weekend Forecast
STUDENT METEOROLOGIST: Scott Jaeger

Currently, an area of high pressure located Northwest of the Northeast Kingdom, will continue to move slowly eastward providing us with clear skies and unseasonably warm temperatures the next couple of days. On Friday, temperatures will reach into the lower to upper 60s with abundant sunshine. Warm temperatures and sunny conditions will continue into the weekend with temperatures ranging into the upper 60s to lower 70s. Make sure you to take advantage of the weather this weekend while it appears to be great weather for any outdoor activies as well as taking care of any outdoor chores.

Tonight
Low: 26-33
Clear skies. North winds between 5-10 mph becoming calm

Saturday
Low: 26-33
High: 66-73
Sunny skies. North winds becoming calm between 5-10 mph.

Sunday
Low: 33-40
High: 67-74
Mostly sunny skies. Calm winds

Horoscopes

Libra (Sept 23-Oct 22) Check your premises. The fork is in the drawer. Stop staring at that person who sits across from you; they've noticed.

Scorpio (Oct 23-Nov 21) This is a bad week for relationships. Dump whoever you're currently with, clean yourself up, and find someone new.

Sagittarius (Nov 22-Dec 21) Spring is in the air but not in your step. Put some extra sugar in your morning scotch or people will begin to talk.

Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 19) Winter is coming. It never really left. Deep fry those summer shorts as you will need to eat them for calories in the coming lean months.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 18) There is a lot of fat clogging your heart. Take those shorts out of the deep fryer, wash them, and run, because you're going to die.

Pisces (Feb 19-Mar 20) Your life is disorganized. Organize it, pronto. You will start to get the reputation for being a mess and you don't want that.

Aries (Mar 21-Apr 19) People are out to get you. It's not just paranoia. Do whatever you can to avoid people at all costs because they will steal from you.

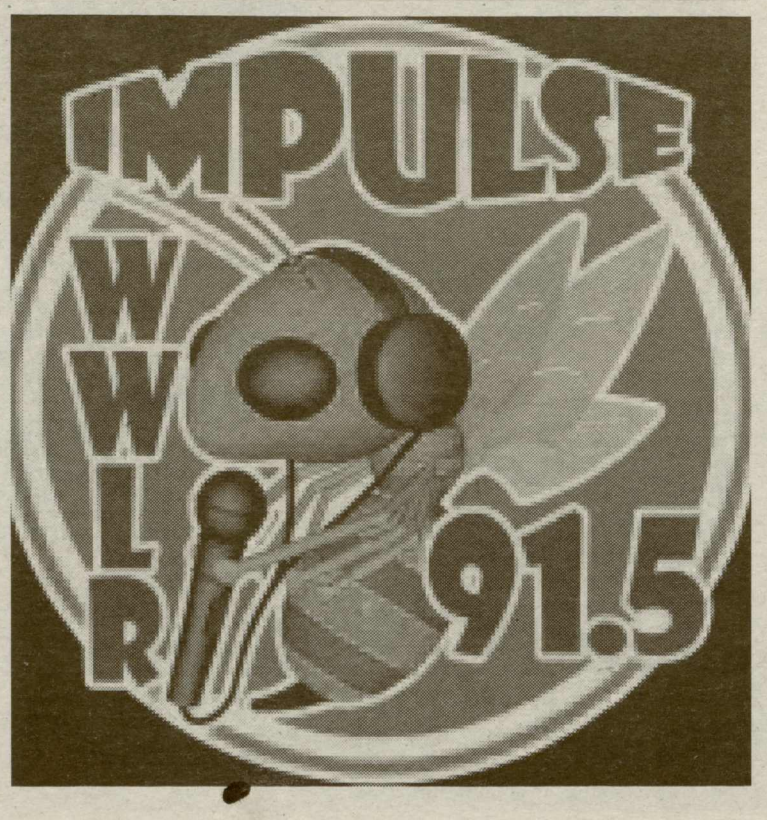
Taurus (Apr 20-May 20) Withdraw all the money from your savings account, and burn it. Money is the root of all evil.

Gemini (May 21-Jun 21) Your family doesn't love you anymore. When's the last time they sent you money? Think about it.

Cancer (Jun 22-Jul 22) That new cologne your trying is working. Better hope it's the same for condoms.

Leo (Jul 23-Aug 22) Your love is like a screen door caked with dead bugs with giant holes ripped open by the dog.

Virgo (Aug 23-Sept 22) There once was a man from Nantucket. He didn't care for the area, so he moved to a place with better job opportunities and a better school system.



LSC student's attend Writers Conference

By KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
MANAGING EDITOR

If the speakers at the National Writer's Workshop didn't have much in the way of helpful writing information, they at least had a few interesting stories.

The conference started with a talk by David Baldacci on Saturday morning. Baldacci is the guy who wrote the book "Absolute Power," later adapted into a movie released in 1997 about a corrupt President and staring Clint Eastwood. "When I wrote it, it was an original idea," Baldacci said, responding to laughter from the audience.

The way the workshop was set up, there were different tracks for different types of writers present. While the entire group would assemble for certain speakers, there were points in the day were attendees had a choice of up to five panels to attend. This reporter followed the journalism track.

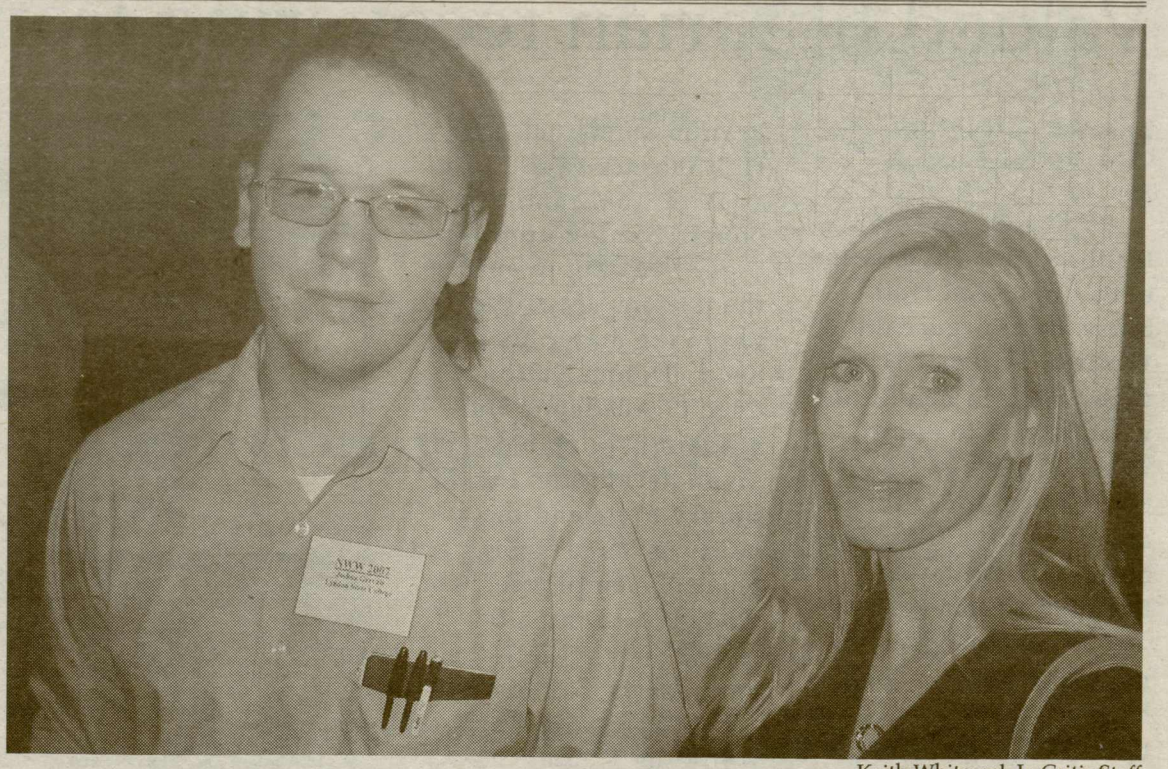
The panel on blogs nearly turned into an episode of the Jerry Springer show when one woman began a question for the speaker "Because blogers can't have ethics or standards..."she was quickly challenged by a row of blogers.

The blog panel's speaker, Denis Horgan Jr., a producer and writer for MSNBC's "Countdown with Keith Olbermann," as well being the show's online manager, held the opinion that mainstream journalists should be trying to fit into the emerging online world instead of trying to distance themselves from it. "The tendency has been to shun or ignore the blogsphere, and I think that's a mistake," Horgan said. "There is no reason mainstream media can't open up."

Dan Barry, writer of "The Land" column for the New York Times was one of the speakers who didn't loads of practical advice, but did tell a good story.

Barry told of what it was like covering Hurricane Katrina, which devastated the city of New Orleans in August of 2005.

Barry told the audience of what it was like to interview a man who was being arrested by the National Guard while he was on the ground with guns pointed at his head. He described the odd occurrence of a corpse being left in the middle of the street of a major American city for several says. "It's f***ed up," Barry said.



Keith Whitcomb Jr, Critic Staff

Josh Gervais, and Trish Pennypacker were two of the students who attened the Writers Convention in Hartford.

Barry did have a few snippets of advice though. To reporters he said "Lose the attitude." No one has seen it all or done everything. Letting oneself become callous makes for bad reporting.

One disappointment was Chip Scalan, a professional writing coach. His "Five Sure-Fire Tips for Wild Success" panel sounded like an infomercial for making a million dollars or losing 50 pounds in three months. First, write down the goal, draw what success looks like, brainstorm steps, organize those steps and then identify the next step you must take.

In essence, to accomplish your goals all you have to do is do them.

One question brought up repeatedly by reporters at the workshop was how to do in-depth reporting and take fresh angles when the deadline for three stories was in the next five hours. Eileen McNamara, a former columnist for the Boston Globe, in addition to having much to say on how to do good reporting had no advice for how to do it on a tight deadline, although she did admit time was a luxury.

The weather did not permit the LSC group to attend the entire conference. They left for home at 12 p.m. on Sunday to try and beat the storm that pounded the Northeast.

LSC alumnus returned to discuss career as CEO of Carhartt

By DANIELLE SYKES
CRITIC STAFF

One successful alumnus returned to Vermont to speak to students about his career, but admits that from the beginning it has been easy for him to come to LSC.

In the 1970's, admissions faculty had no way of knowing that Mark Valade would become the CEO of the clothing company Carhartt, but they wanted him anyway. The college was desperate for money, said Valade, and potential students from out-of-state looked good. Valade didn't fill out the typical application, but supplied LSC with proof of his high school diploma and was enrolled as a student.

Valade was the latest speaker at "Lunch with a CEO." Carhartt was founded in 1889 in Michigan by Valade's great-grandfather. The company prides itself on the fact that it remains a family run business.

Carhartt employs 4,000 people and has 20 million customers, said LSC President Carol Moore during her introduction speech. A number of LSC students are known to sport Carhartt apparel. Carhartt is "the unofficial uniform of recreation majors," she said.

"If you don't treat people with respect and motivate them in the right way, you'll lose them," Valade said.

Valade insists he is not solely responsible for growth the business has experienced since he assumed role of CEO. A team effort was necessary in expanding the business to its now global status, he said.

"The global aspect is difficult," said Valade. Language barriers prove to be the least of the troubles Carhartt has experienced since going global. Social customs and what the government will and will not allow are very different in other countries, but need to be understood, he said.

"We don't know how to get the product to the customer," said Valade of recent struggles Carhartt has faced in Europe.

Carhartt has established offices in Mexico, China and Poland, to name a few. This upsets some American consumers who are no longer guaranteed a product that is made in the United States, said Valade. Regardless, the business is continuing to work towards expanding its target market.

"We have a new women's market this year," said Valade. Hispanics are a group Carhartt is trying to focus on because they make up an ever increasing number of American blue collar workers, he said.

Carhartt has chosen to remain a private company after 118 years so the focus can be on the customer's needs, said Valade.

"We want to take care of the brand," he said. "We won't sell to Wal-Mart or Home Depot."

Carhartt owns its factories and can finance itself for that reason. The business devotes more time to researching global strategies than most other companies, said Valade.

Carhartt is not a sweatshop company, he said. Carhartt factories in Mexico are OSHA certified and other foreign factories are very close to that level, he said.

"We think the government's standards are too low," Valade said. Carhartt has established a social responsibility committee that focuses on concerns such as education and global warming.

"Everything is on your shoulders," said Valade about his position as CEO, "and you can't run away." He highlights his leadership skills as being continually tested.

Moving up the ladder in a business requires adjustment of many skills, said Valade. Some become irrelevant, while others that were recessive become imperative.

"If you don't treat people with respect and motivate them in the right way, you'll lose them," said Valade.

Over 40 people came to this semester's discussion with a CEO. This is the fourth meal with a CEO that has taken place on campus, but typically 20 students attend, said Linda Mitchell, chair of the Business Administration Department. Carol Moore has given an introductory speech at every meeting, which means a lot to the students who plan them, said Mitchell.

Four Business majors were responsible for planning the meeting, said Mitchell. Karen Belknap, Jennifer Williams, Daniel Travis and Rebecca Braley worked hard to get Valade to come such a distance to speak for one hour.

"I took orders from the students," said Mitchell, who considered the discussion to be a success. CEOs have a lot of valuable information to offer to college students, and the department will continue to plan meetings of this sort.

"Valade showed that a CEO can still be a real person," said Mitchell. "A lot of people think you have to make a choice about being yourself once you reach that level in a business."

Valued librarian recovering from surgery

By SARAH DONAGHY
Critic Staff

Phyllis Green, the interlibrary loan specialist at Samuel Read Hall Library, had surgery on Wednesday April 11 and is expected to be out of work for six to eight weeks. This has been a big concern for students and staff alike that have both worked and befriended Green.

"Everyday I come in I make it a point to go see her because she's good to talk to. She just brightens my day," Julie Deslandes a sophomore at LSC said.

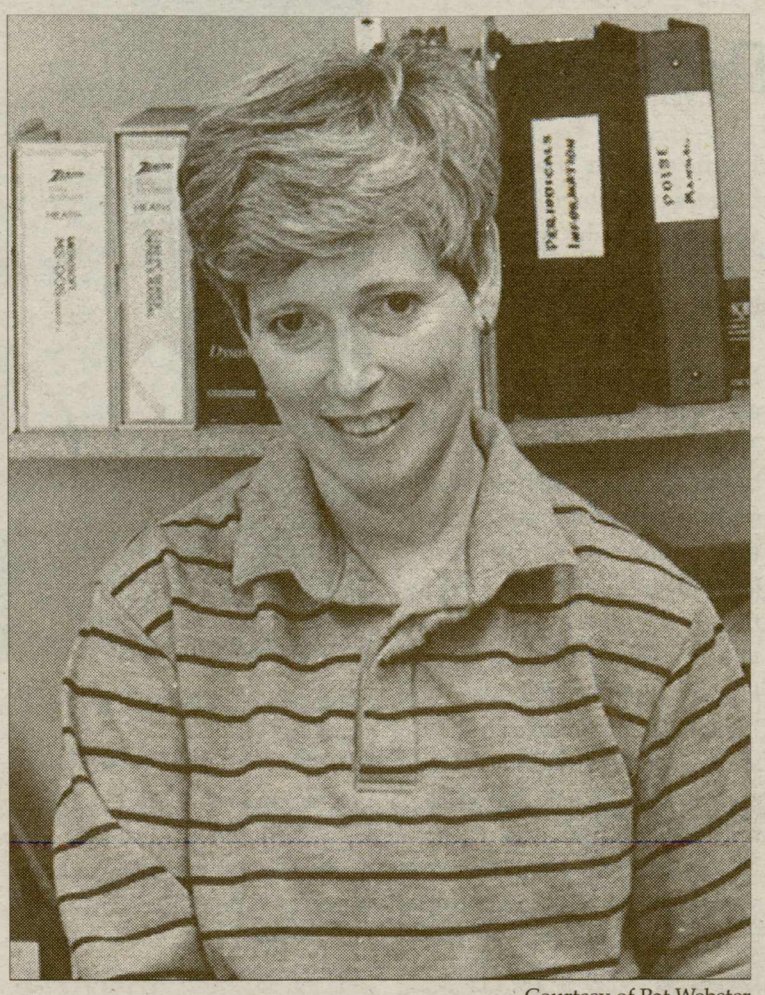
Green helps library patrons obtain information that is not available in the college library. While often she works behind the scenes many have also worked with her one-on-one tracking down books that were not in the available data bases.

"Whenever there is a need for resources outside the LSC library, Phyllis is able to find and retrieve them for the college community at a moments notice," Jay Bona a part-time reference librarian at Samuel Read Hall Library said.

With finals and term papers coming up the library is trying to ensure the patrons are still able to get the materials they need. Donna Dalton, dean of Academic and Student Affairs, has given permission for the library to extend the hours of one of their part-time employees who, along with Donna Edwards the circulation supervisor, is training and taking over Green's work while she is out.

It is unlikely that she will return before the semester is over but she will be returning to her job during the summer. Staff and student employees are being kept up-to-date via email about Green's progress by Donna Edwards.

"Although the library staff is concerned, we understand from reports from the family that she is recovering very well," Edwards said. She is a personal friend of Green's and she says she tries to let the students know what is going on because she knows how deeply they care for her.



Courtesy of Pat Webster

Phyllis Green, interlibrary loan specialist,shown in an undated photo, is recovering from surgery.

"All the library staff misses her terribly and we hope she gets better as soon as possible," Garet Nelson the library director said. In the mean time, however, there will be no new hires to work as a substitute for her position.

Phyllis Green is currently at her home in Lyndonville recovering. While she is not yet ready for visitors any cards or flowers can be given to Donna Edwards who will pass them along.

Upcoming Games

Baseball: April 23 vs. Plymouth State, 2:30 p.m.; April 25 vs. St. Michael's College, 2 p.m.; April 28 vs. Southern Maine Community College, 1 p.m.; April 29 vs. Briarcliffe College; May 3 vs. Norwich University, 2 p.m.

Softball: April 28 vs. Southern Maine Community College, 1 p.m.; April 29 vs. Johnson State College, 2 p.m.

Tennis: April 21 @ Green Mountain College, 1 p.m.; April 28 vs. Castleton State College, 1 p.m. @ Sugarbush Resort; April 29 vs. Green Mountain College, 1 p.m. @ Lyndon State College.

All baseball and softball games are doubleheaders and are played at the Darrell "Skip" Pound Baseball and Softball Fields. Start times indicate the start of the first game of the doubleheader.

International trips provide valuable experiences to students

By SARAH DONAGHY
Critic Staff

"You do so much in a short time," Elizabeth Conklin a senior at LSC said when she came back from her semester trip to England. "It was good but it was also overwhelming."

No matter what major a student has, or even if they are a full-time college student, LSC offers opportunities to travel and learn abroad. Two groups of students took this opportunity over April vacation.

The trip to England was the first such trip that Professor of English David Beliles has planned for LSC students. The course itself was on Shakespeare and the students were able to see the playwright's birth place and gravesite as well as the Globe Theatre, which is being reconstructed.

"I think it is really a great experience for students. Travel is immensely broadening. There is just something about being there that does really enrich the education," Beliles said.

England is now quite dissimilar to Shakespeare's time. Beliles thinks that if he does the trip again in the future that he might choose another author as the focus of the class.

Professor Alexander Strokanov hosted a trip to Russia during spring break. Although this was a one credit course with little class time leading up to it, he stressed that there is a lot more than the allotted 15 hours of lecture time spent on the trip.

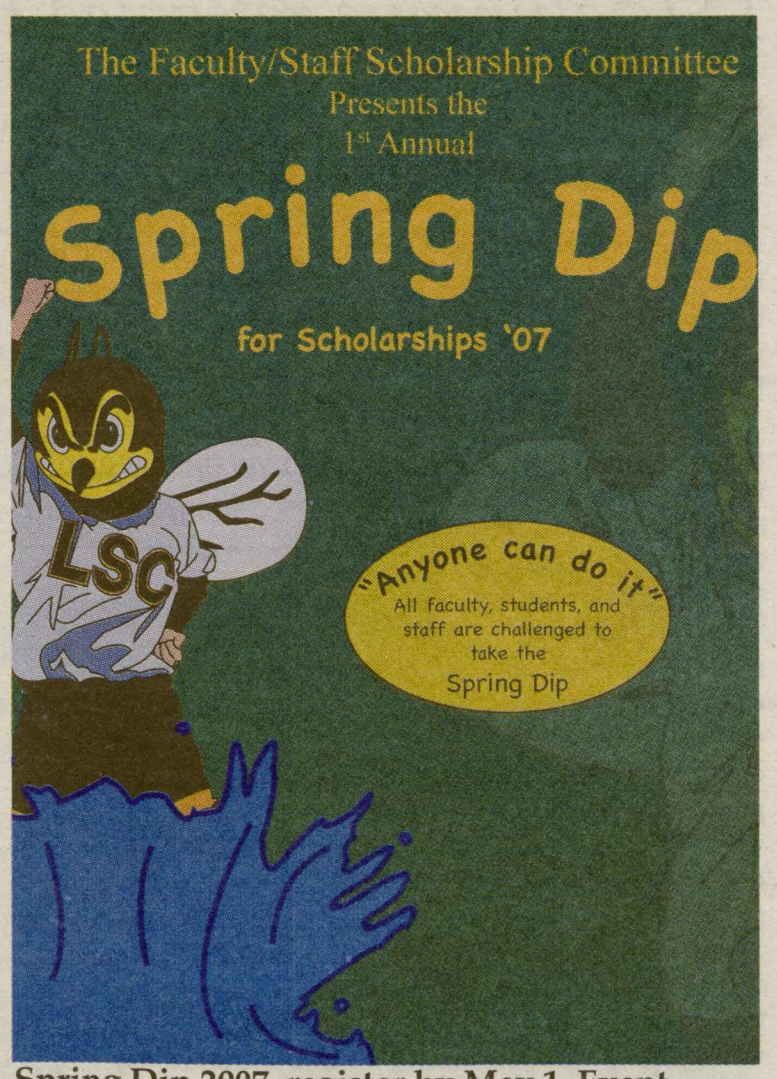
"I believe that you should learn not only in the class room from professors or textbooks but by experiencing," Strokanov said.

Financially these trips can create quite a burden on the students, however. The trip to England had a lab fee that cost nearly $2,000 and the various trips which Strokanov hosts can rang from $2,100 to go to Spain to $3,700 for the up coming trip to Australia/New Zealand. This can be a big obstacle for students with limited funds.

Both Strokanov and Beliles stressed how inexpensive the trips are in comparison to someone who tried to do these same things on their own. Also, whereas students can receive financial aid to take these courses, individuals planning there own trips could not.

"It will cost [students] going on their own at least a thousand more," Strokanov said.

Interested students still have several more trips available to them in the upcoming year. Strokanov alone has six more in the next year; Australia/New Zealand in May, Russia again in June, England/Ireland/Wales in November, China in February, Romantic Europe in April, and Central Europe the following May.



Spring Dip 2007, register by May 1. Event happening at 12:30 p.m. For questions contact Hannah Manley at the Alumni House.

Have an event you want to advertise? Put it in the Critic.

Fitness center floods

Pg. 2

THE CRITIC

Serving the student voice of the Northeast Kingdom

Lyndonville, Vermont | Friday, April 27, 2007 | Volume 53, Number 19

Dingdongs and Goofballs returns

Pg. 3

WWLR General Manager Jeremy Lacey among 5 students facing expulsion over alcohol incident

Sevigny: alleged mescaline and urine found in drink resulting in student being hospitalized

By MARY WHEELER AND KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
CRITIC STAFF

Jeremy Lacey, general manager of WWLR was one of the five students suspended in the alcohol related incident, that sent a student to the hospital last week.

Officials stated that urine and alleged mescaline where found in the victims drink.

Jamie Osler, a junior liberal arts major, was celebrating his 22nd birthday with a group of students on the evening of April 16 in one of the residence halls. Somewhere between 11 p.m. and 12:30 a.m, Osler was purposely intoxicated and was restrained to a chair with duct tape, according to college officials. He was hospitalized and released later that day.

Lacey stated in an e-mail to a faculty member that he has left the Lyndonville area, and doesn't plan on returning except for his hearing which will be held Tuesday.

Lacey explained how he didn't feel safe attending any commencement activities or classes if allowed back on campus.

Lacey felt that the administration of LSC has a personal bias towards him. "I feel that the shallowness, unprofessionalism, and downright vindictive nature of this administration is so despicable," the e-mail read. "I am not disenrolling from LSC, they will have to expell me first, and then deal with such consequences in court." The other four suspects in the incident haven't been identified.

A forum including faculty, staff, and students was held yesterday. Emotions grew high as questions arose on the consequences that those involved will face.

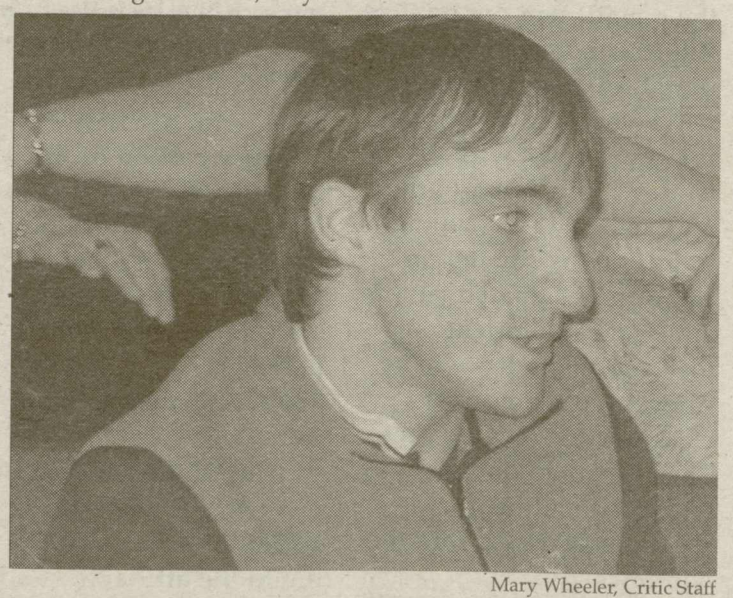
"I'm not going to talk about the people involved," Leo Sevigny, associate dean for Student Affairs said. "Each student involved has a right to privacy in the judicial hearings."

"This is the way it is on campuses. We're not anymore extreme than other campuses," President Carol Moore said.

"I think this has something to do with the maturity levels of the people involved," Jon Maciel, an LSC junior said.

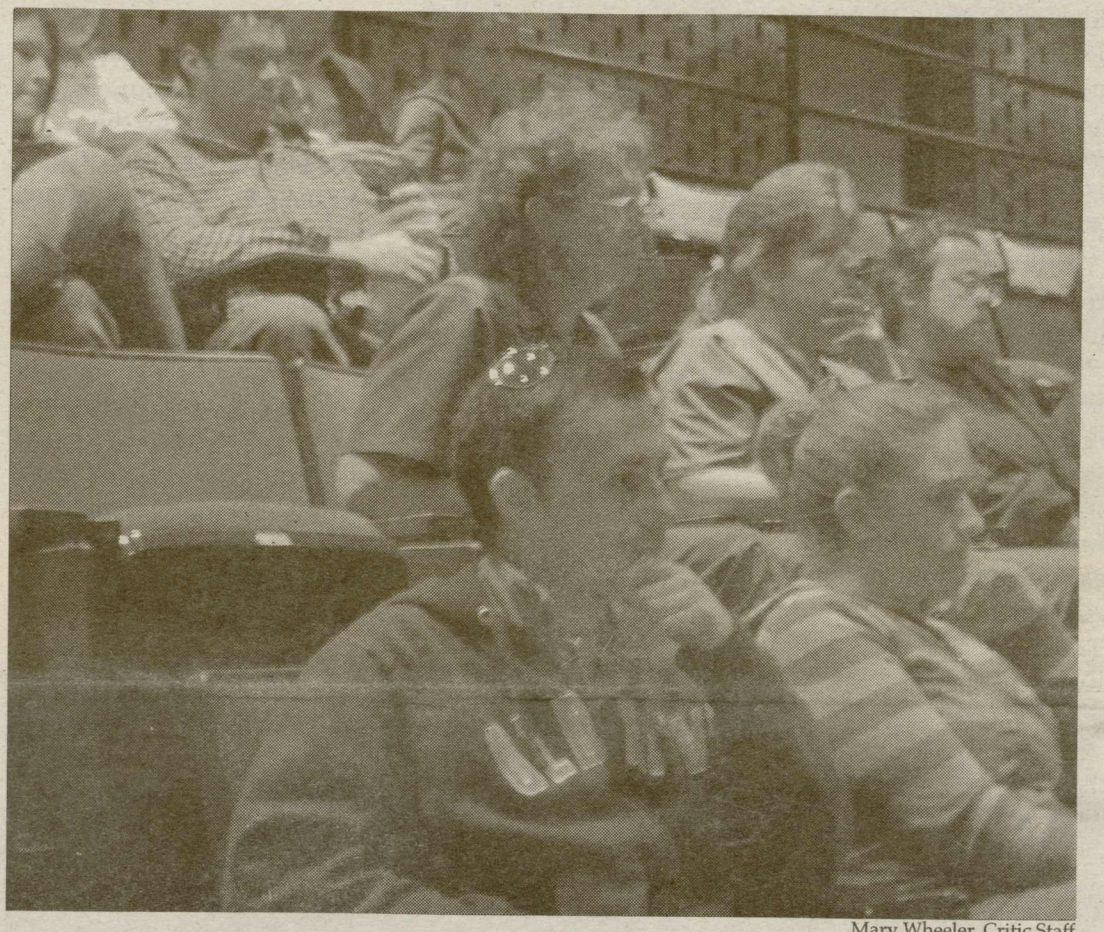
The alleged incident was video-recorded, and Osler was sent a copy. Bob Whittaker, dean of institutional advancement who has seen the tape said it's currently in the hands of officials. "They were chanting a rugby slogan," Whittaker said. However, he added "we're not treating it as a Rugby-related incident."

"It's not a hazing incident," Whittaker said. "I don't believe that was the motivation for the incident." Whittaker defined hazing as "when it's an initiation act that's related to a team or a club."



Mary Wheeler, Critic Staff

Jon Maciel, an LSC junior, spoke during the community forum about the lack of maturity from some students.



Mary Wheeler, Critic Staff

Nathan Rossetti and Amanda Latuch, as well as staff members listen to the discussion on the recent alcohol incident that has affected the entire campus.

Sevigny added during the forum that it was obvious from the videos and interviews that the event wasn't an initiation. "I won't connect this to any particular group on campus," he said. In regards to a comment made about alcohol abuse in the residence halls, Sevigny said, "unfortunately there's always going to be events like this that we don't find."

Kyle DuBreuil, the rugby president said in an interview that the whole incident was a "bad decision made by those involved." "This has nothing to do with the rugby club. We've had problems in the past and we've been trying really hard to change our image."

Several members of the LSC staff reacted in disbelief to the whole situation. "I think they should be cut out like a cancer," Bill Martin, maintenance technician said, on what should happen to those involved.

"We don't feel safe in the dormitories anymore," Gloria Moyse, custodian said.

According to the Vermont State Colleges manual of policies and procedures, hazing is defined as being any act committed by a person against a student in a connection with "pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization." The definition also includes that "humiliating, intimidating, or demeaning the student or endangering the mental or physical health of a student." The sanctions for such actions against students include expulsion, and organizations face suspension or revocation.

Updates on this story will be posted throughout the week on www.lyndonstate.edu/critic

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Sports Pg. 7

www.lyndonstate.edu/critic

Fitness center receives flooding due to harsh weather conditions

By SARAH DONAGHY
CRITIC STAFF

Parts of the fitness center have been experiencing unusual amounts of flooding.

"I noticed water [in the men's locker room] and called maintenance. They came right up," Randy Rathburn director of Intramurals, said.

Rathburn first noticed the puddles in the hallway that leads to the locker room on Monday 16, but according to Joann Charron, the custodian who works in that area of the building, the flooding has been going on since February 28. The water is believed to be ground water seeping in around the foundation.

"It hasn't happened for quite a few years and not to this extent. We've had a lot of rain and a lot of snow this winter and the ground didn't freeze for a long time," James Gallagher, the director of the Physical Plant, said.

The custodial staff is working to keep the area clear of water to prevent damage and mold. The water is being extracted with wet/dry vacuums along with several large fans to move the water and help with evaporation.

The vacuums that are being used hold about 15 gallons of water. On average, Charron empties about 75 gallons of water out of the locker room, the adjoining hallway, and nearby boiler room before her shift ends at noon. Dave Wood, the custodial supervisor, empties out another 30 gallons or so in the afternoons.

There is some concern about mold growing under the mats in the fitness center if water gets trapped underneath. "It is not molding as of yet," Wood said. "As long as we keep the air moving we should be okay."

Little damage has been done so far, Gallagher said.

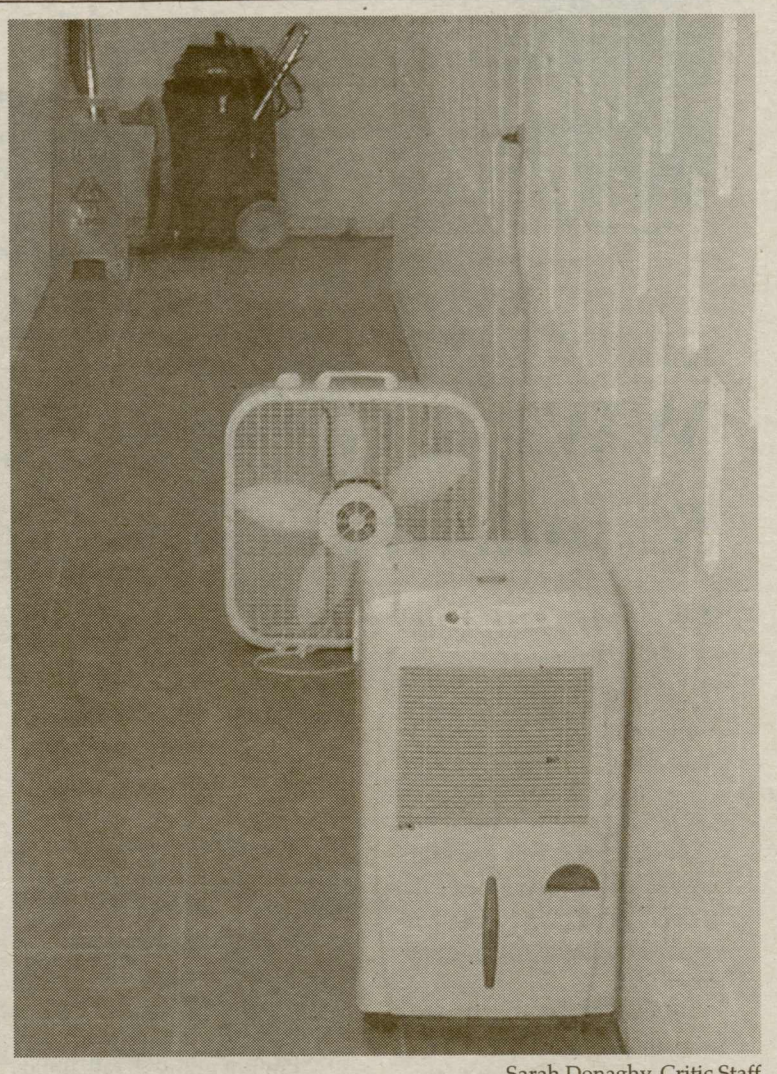
"There is one little piece of sheet rock, about five feet long, that's wet on the bottom and we'll have to replace that," Gallagher said.

"There is nothing we can do [about the leak]. The water table is high and it's coming in around the foundation. It's just a matter of sucking it up with the wet and dry vacs everyday," Gallagher said.

It is unlikely that any of this activity will interrupt the use of either the fitness center or the men's locker room.

"I had used the showers because it was a courtesy from the college for those who lost power during the storm," Jay Bona, a part-time staff member at LSC, said. "There was some water on the floor but they were taking care of it with fans."

Gallagher believes that the leaking will slow down when the water table returns to normal. Any heavy rainfall or accumulation of snow could prolong the leaking but it is likely to end as the thawing snow evaporates.



Sarah Donaghy, Critic Staff

A variety of fans were used earlier in the week to dry up excess water found in the fitness center and men's locker room.

LSC community warned of dangerous individual

By KEITH WHITCOMB JR. AND MARY WHEELER
CRITIC STAFF

LSC officials have released statements notifying the LSC community about what they should do if they see John King on campus.

John King was recently charged with stalking and threatening his ex-girlfriend, Chelsey Finigan, and LSC students.

The court has ordered King not to enter the town of Lyndon, but if he is sighted on campus, do not try to confront him. Call 911 and 1111 instead, said the e-mail, sent out by Bob Whittaker, dean of Institutional Advancement.

The campus has a plan for "Lockdown with Intruder". According to the plan, when a threatening individual is sighted on campus, designated people announce it. Student, faculty and visitors are to be directed to the nearest classroom or secured area. The classroom doors are to be locked and people should stay away from the windows.

The plan is currently being updated.

According to state police, King had been threatening to shoot Finigan along with her friends.

The weekend of April 14, King threatened to kill Jeremy Lacey after Finigan had received a phone call from Lacey. King then stabbed himself in the palm with a screwdriver and threatened to kill himself.

King had been on campus twice in the past, April 14 being the latest, according to the affidavit.

Finigan had a restraining order against King in 2005, after he tried to attack her with a baseball bat.

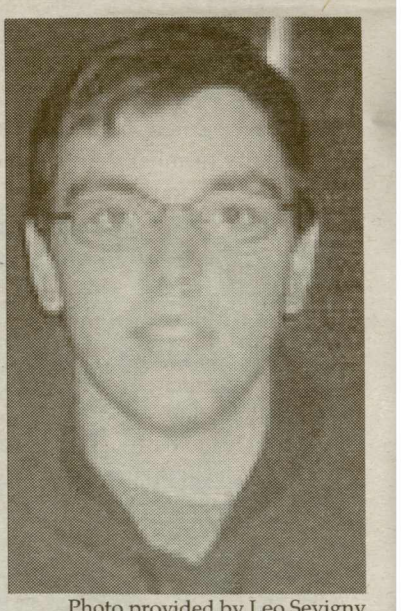
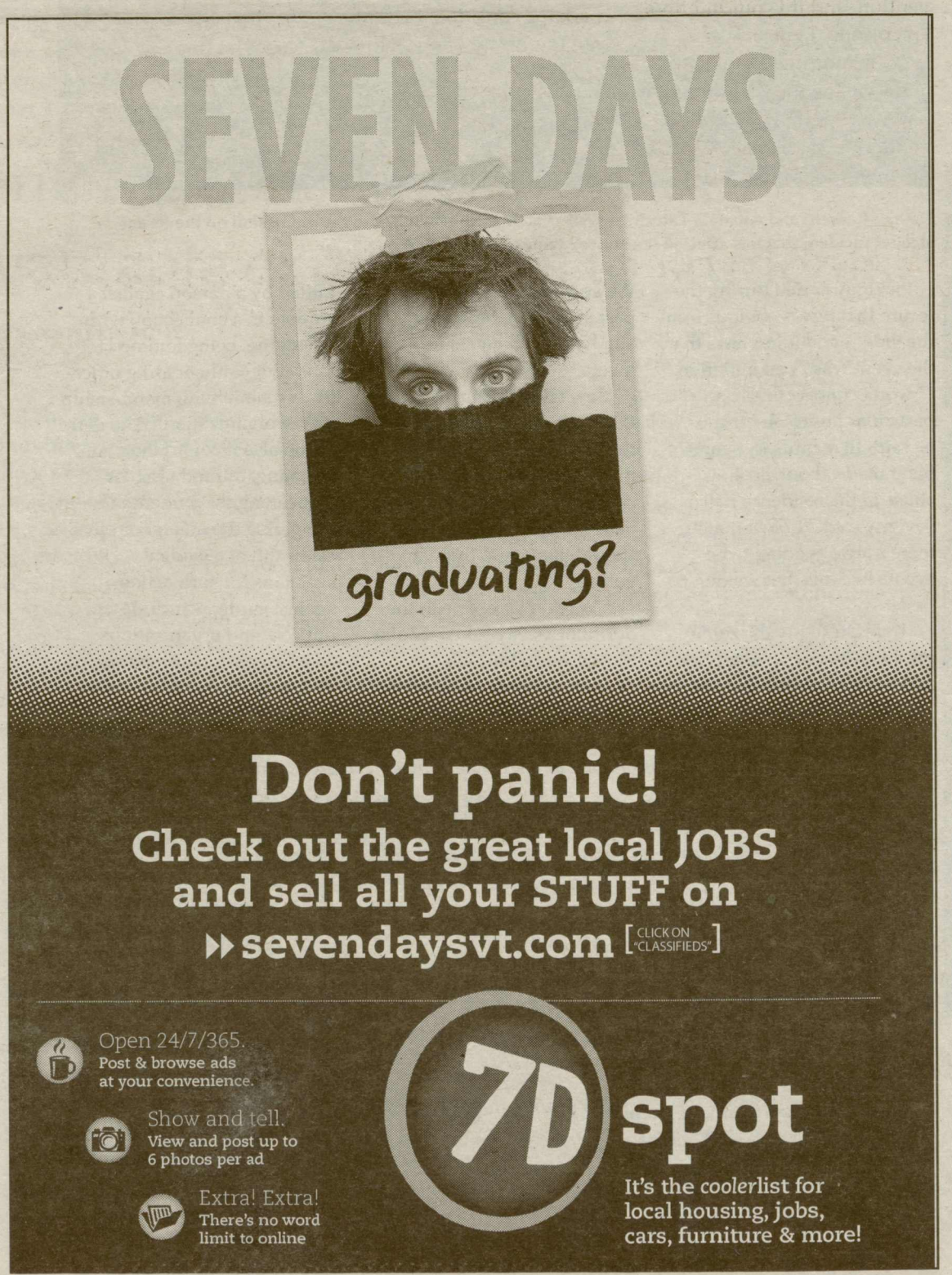


Photo provided by Leo Sevigny

John King. If sighted on campus, call 911 or Public Safety at 1111. Do not attempt to approach him. He is also barred from entering Lyndon by a court order.



The big comeback: Dingdongs and Goofballs

By DILLON ELIASSEN
CRITIC COLUMNIST

Over the past couple of months, a number of people have asked me why Dingdongs & Goofballs hasn't been gracing the pages of The Critic. I thought that instead of writing a column to explain, in pretty hilarious detail, some fake reason why I haven't been writing it, I'd actually write something serious. The reason for my hiatus is serious subject matter, and I thought I could actually help my loyal readers by writing about how I overcame a serious affliction in my life. I felt it was more important to try to impart something that I have learned through my struggle, rather than make up some stupid, false, but probably really funny, story. I feel, that at the very least, I owe that to my faithful readers. So, dear readers, the reason for the absence of Dingdongs & Goofballs is that I have spent the past 90 days in a rehabilitation center.

Let me start from the beginning. I was flipping through the channels on TV one day towards the end of January when I came across a show called Intervention. I had never seen this show before, so I was a little curious to see what it was like. It was an hour long show on the A&E channel. Basically, a camera crew shadows someone suffering from an addiction, whether it's from drugs, alcohol, eating disorders, or huffing Glade. The producers of the show make a deal with the addict, telling the "star" they are making a documentary about addiction. What they don't tell the addict is that the producers had been contacted by the addicts' friends and family, and that the filming will conclude with an intervention.

The episode I stumbled upon happened to be the first episode of the second season, and let me tell you, they started the season off on a high note. The episode was titled "Cristy." Cristy was an alcoholic, and a crystal meth addict. She had been smoking and snorting meth for 10 years, since she was 14.

Cristy is also a stripper, who spends all her money on meth, so to get alcohol she hangs out in front of liquor stores, gets sketchy dudes to buy her booze by promising them sex, and then takes off after she gets the booze in hand. She also keeps a journal, part of which she read to the camera. The gist of her writing was that she is great and godlike because she smokes meth, and her family sucks because they don't want to get high. I was very impressed with the language and structure of her journals; her work comparable to the diaries of Jim Carroll.

There was a great scene during the episode in which her younger sister, Jaymee, brings her a hot cup of noodles, since Cristy never buys food, only meth. When Jaymee enters Cristy's house, Cristy is sitting on her bed, completely naked, and whacked out of her head on meth. Jaymee asks her why she's naked and Cristy responds that she's too high and hot to wear clothes. When Jaymee gives her the cup of noodles, Cristy takes one bite, and then tosses the cup against the wall. Jaymee asks Cristy why she did that and Cristy accuses Jaymee of giving her the food to make her fat. Cristy then attacks her sister, but she's too high, and Jaymee tosses her around and holds her down with ease. It reminded me of the naked fight scene in Borat.

I found the show interesting because it highlights the things an addict does to get drugs. Things like stealing, sifting through garbage, turning tricks; stuff a non-drug addict sees and gets grossed out by, Cristy does like it's a typical errand to be run. I was fascinated and mesmerized by her lifestyle. Because of her insane behavior, I couldn't feel sorry for her as much as I laughed at her. I thought it was so funny that she actually thought that she was doing a good thing, that her life was so awesome; the drug use had warped her mind so much.

After the first episode, I was hooked on Intervention. I watched it whenever it was on, and thanks to DVR, I could record and watch as many episodes as I wanted. I started spending all my time trying to find an episode that would be as good as Cristy's. There were a couple good episodes, but none were ever as good as that first one. I started missing classes and work from watching Intervention. My girlfriend dumped me because watching Intervention was more important to me than spending time with her. I knew I needed help, but I couldn't stop; I needed to watch Intervention, and if I couldn't find an episode, I got sick.

One morning I woke up, and as usual the first though I had was "gotta watch Intervention." As I walked into the living room to watch my first episode of the day, I was shocked to see all my family and close friends waiting for me. I realized what they were there for before my roommate, the Rev. Matthew T. Wojcik told me that this was an intervention, because my life had spiraled out of control due to my addiction. I was angry at first that I was being confronted like this, but after everyone talked to me about how my behavior due to my addiction was affecting them, I realized how out of control everything had gotten. I had placed my need for Intervention above everything else, and I didn't care who I hurt in my craving for the show. I was so ashamed; when the interventionist asked me if I wanted to get help for my addiction, I nodded my head in agreement, teardrops silently falling onto the remote control I still clutched in my hand.

Editor's Note: Dillon relapsed after going six weeks without watching Intervention after completing 90 days of treatment. As of this publication, Dillon was roaming the streets, trying to find episodes of Intervention playing on TVs in the showroom windows of electronics-stores.

How the cost of living in America is affecting us all

Dear Editor:

A letter to the editor of a newspaper called "The Cost of Living", got me thinking about how the economy works. Keep in mind that, no matter how bad things get, the people managing the country are riding the top of the wave. They have a vested interest in the status quo. One of the tools the leaders use to deceive Americans is called deceptive rhetoric.

Deceptive rhetoric, is the art of making large things look small and small things look large. Advertisers use this all the time to trick consumers into buying things they don't really need. The issues that comes to my mind that has a lot of deception mixed with it is the national debt, which is somewhere in the trillions of dollars. I would think that this issue would be of critical concern to the nation's leaders; however, it is magically swept aside, overlooked and perhaps considered simply not important enough to deal with.

I have asked people to imagine a switch on the wall, like a light switch, that if you throw this hypothetical switch; you instantly stop all evil in this country. Most people say they would throw the switch. However, that would instantly destroy the country, because so much of what drives our economy is dependent on the fact that someone will do something wrong, break something, wear something out, acquire a terrible disease on and on to infinity the scenarios could go.

It's an exponential reality, of a massive cause-and-effect relationship between right and wrong / good and evil. That is to say for every negative there is a corresponding positive or at least an attempt to make things positive. All of which take massive amounts of money, human ingenuity and we cannot fail to mention human suffering too.

So the question of "The cost of Living" and how it affects all of us. Really it's very complicated and a very serious consideration for every one, four or selves as individuals, our families, neighbors, our country and the generations to follow us.

The concept of a magic switch is only a rhetorical illustration. One illustrating that decisions are sometimes very complicated and need to be made these are made either deliberately or by default. Every individual American, (since we are a democracy, "we the wee people") needs to make these difficult decisions and ultimately make this country better,

By being individual leaders who find answers that deal with cause and effect and wherever possible get to the root of social/economic problems; demanding this of our countries leadership as well.

Getting to the poor, a cost-of-living increase may sound good in the short term, but it is simply the snake eating his tail, inflation is a wave that has always smashed the poor. However, managing the economy in a way that tames the out-of-control economical system will produce the ultimate good for everyone, one-step at a time one complicated decision at a time.

Joseph Rieckman

The Lyndon State College Critic can now be found on the world wide web

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Check out the latest breaking news stories, sports, and opinions on www.lyndonstate.edu/critic

Moments Like This: After the Storm

By TRISH PENNYPACKER
CRITIC COLUMNIST

On Wednesday morning, I heated water on top of a tiny wood stove, sponge bathed the dirt from sleepy and irritated faces, pawed through what was left of the clean laundry, tossed clean clothes at everyone, slathered peanut butter and jelly onto slices of bread (while apologizing to my kids that there would be no hot breakfast for the third morning in a row), handed out bananas, tried to hold my diaper-less daughter in one hand, while I scrubbed her down with the other, and (whew!) somehow got everyone out the door right on schedule.

Our home, like many homes throughout the Northeast, was still without electricity in the aftermath of the weekend Northeaster.

With the kids in daycare, I tried to forget about the chaos as I listened to the radio on my drive to school. I enjoyed the abundance of electricity at LSC, and finished up some work in the computer lab. I lingered in the bathroom while washing my hands under warm, running water, and was even happy to hear the sound of a toilet flushing.

When I walked through my front door mid-afternoon, the absence of running appliances brought the reality of my world back to me. After starting the fire, I quickly gathered up a few things, closed the bathroom door to the never-ending pile of dirty laundry, and shuttled the kids back into my car for a drive to my mother's house.

Mom's house, although slightly chilly, has a large wood stove that gives off decent heat without the need for oil or electric backup. The water is gravity fed and runs without the need for an electric water pump. And better yet, I could cook a hot meal since Mom's stove is gas (I was wishing my stove was gas. I was tired of picking up take-out and not being able to cook a decent meal for the kids).

The kids and I have lived a few places without electricity, but back then, our homes were set up for it: solar lights, oil lamps, gas cook stove, wood stove, gas refrigerator, gravity-fed running water, a compost toilet (heck, even a porta-potty once). I used to frequent laundry mats and was a pro at cooking on a grill, or even over an open fire. I didn't worry about what I didn't have, because I had everything I needed to survive.

After the powerful Northeaster pounded through the region and toppled trees and limbs, knocking out power to thousands of homes, I realized how spoiled I have been these last few years. I no longer thought twice about the hum of my refrigerator or the rattling of the furnace as it fired in the basement. I did not worry if my kids spilled milk or left muddy footprints on the floor. Cleaning up was nothing more than a quick turn of the faucet and a swipe away.

Besides my need to keep everything clean, and to cook, and to actually see what I was doing, there was also my selfish need to find a way to entertain my kids for an hour while I worked on projects of my own.

Usually, I consider myself a creative Mom. I tell silly, spontaneous stories; I play ball, and blocks, and cars; I paint, and squish play dough, and make a bigger mess than the kids do; but I also rely on the TV for an hour in the late afternoon, so I can finish my tasks without worrying about the kids.

Without the TV, my daughter had Scooby-doo withdrawals, and none of her beloved books would appease

the change in routine. My sons, tired of "pioneering" it, could think of nothing "cool" to do since it was raining outside and dark inside. By the time the electricity finally came back on, the entire family was in a state of upheaval and exhaustion.

Things are almost back to normal, now that the electricity has been back on for a few days. The hamper is empty (do you really think boys put their dirty clothes inside a hamper?), and the pile of clothes surrounding it has diminished. Beef is roasting in the oven, potatoes are simmering on the stove, and my daughter is happily watching Scooby-doo as I write. I think it's going to be a nice evening.

Has the Internet taken away the value of music?

By MEREDITH RIVLIN A
UVM CYNIC STAFF

"Buying one song from an album is like buying one page from a book, or one scene from a movie...taken separately, they are both entertaining. However, out of context, they go no further than mere entertainment."

I think it is the combination of being cheap and stubborn that has kept me from updating my iLife with more iTechnology. While these white rectangles of wonder are tempting and hard to escape, I have managed to come this far surviving on tangible music: music that comes in a compact disc or vinyl that I can hold in my hand and, yes, scratch, if I don't hold it carefully.

It was with the inception of the iPod Shuffle when I transformed from just being too cheap to buy the latest technology to conscientiously boycotting iPods and other MP3 players. Let me state, for the record, that I have previously owned, and still have in my possession, a Zen Creative MP3 player, which a former friend convinced me to buy during a financially comfortable time in my life. After uploading hours of albums onto this large, 3gig device (it wasn't smaller than an entire wallet, let alone a credit card), the technical difficulties commenced: only when squeezed shut did the little devil work, and the second pressure was not applied, it automatically shut off and I automatically packed CDs with me on long car rides.

As an music fan, there is nothing I would rather do, save buying new CDs, than take my plastic compact friends for a long drive and listen to them from start to finish, intro to outro, as the artist had intended. Monet's "Water Lillies" looks much better as a complete canvas than as pieces of a whole, taken separately. This is how albums work when the artist treats them as a final piece of art. Track number five was placed between four and six for a reason. And while it might not be your favorite on the album, it works; it communicates with every other track on the album in an aurally pleasing symbiosis.

It is largely due to the iPod and iPod Shuffle that my generation has ceased listening to entire albums, and they will prevent younger generations from ever having done so. Once uploaded onto the Shuffle, the select songs are ones that the listener likes, the "best of" collection of the listener's downloaded albums. Was that Modest Mouse album not upbeat enough for you? Then take the liveliest tracks and run with it (literally). Feeling down? Every album has a slow ballad, pick your poison. Can't get that one tune out of your head? Be sure it's on your shufflethrow in the live recording for good measure.

When a person decides to be an upstanding member of society and pays for their music via iTunes, the songs are priced individually or by album. But are people buying albums online as often as they used to buy in person? Or do they figure $.99 is a great deal for three minutes of entertainment?

If my painting metaphor was not clear, buying one song from an album is like buying one page from a book, or one scene from a movie. Taken separately, they are both entertaining. However, out of context, they go no further than mere entertainment.

This explains my reasoning for urging people to buy albums (whether in a record store or, if need be, online).

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Adviser: Dan Williams

www.lyndonstate.edu/critic

Editor Wanted

The Critic, Lyndon State College's student newspaper, is seeking a dynamic and talented individual to lead the publication for the 2007/2008 academic year.

The editor is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the newspaper, both print and online. He or she manages the staff and makes assignments, and represents the newspaper to the public and the Student Government Association. The editor is responsible for all editorial, design and budgetary decisions.

The ideal candidate will be a full-time LSC student with a GPA of 2.5 or better. He or she will have previous Critic experience and display superior writing and copy editing ability. The ideal candidate will know how to manage people and finances.

Please submit a letter of application outlining your qualifications for the position and your vision for The Critic, a resume and clips of your work to:

Dan Williams
Critic adviser
Vail 468

The deadline is noon April 27.

A group of LSC students attend anime convention in Boston this past weekend

By KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
CRITIC STAFF

LSC freshman, John Day-Fratto, spent last weekend dressed as a robot.

He, along with a few other people from LSC, were attending Anime Boston, held at the Hynes Convention Center in Boston, MA. The convention celebrated all things relating to Japanese animation, comic books, video games and popular culture.

Day-Fratto's robot costume was based on an anime character from "Cromartie High School". Day-Fratto constructed the costume himself and found the feet to be uncomfortable. "I spent the weekend wearing a trash can," Day-Fratto said.

Day-Fratto wasn't the only person at the convention dressed as an anime character. Roughly a quarter of the conventions 10,000 attendees seemed to wearing some sort of costume ranging in quality from last-minute Halloween costume to something one would find on the set of a blockbuster movie.

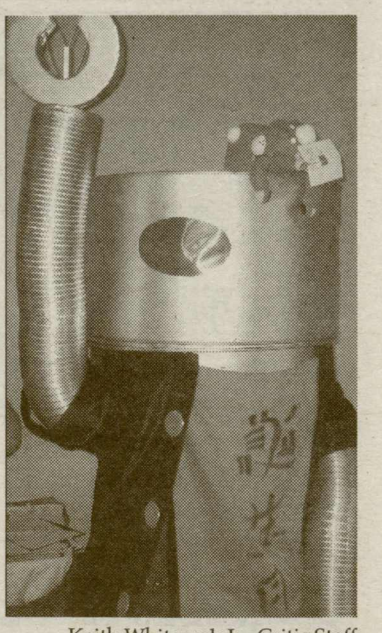
People who dress up in costumes at anime conventions are known as cosplayers. For them, an event called the Masquerade is the highlight of the convention. Anime Boston's masquerade was held on Saturday night for an audience of roughly 3,000 people.

The first part of the masquerade was for "walk-ons". Cosplayers simply walked across stage in their costumes, showing them off. Two giant projection screens made it so the entire room could see what was happening on stage.

The second part of the event was for skits. Cosplayers, instead of merely showing up on stage, acted out skits ranging from melodrama to humor.

One of the skits titled "Tetris Ninjas" involved people holding cardboard signs and acting out a game of Tetris. Others were simply the cast of Super Mario Brothers playing ukuleles.

Another large part of the convention was the dealer's room, where vendors sold their anime-themed wares. Items included pins, wall scrolls, action figures, jewelry, comics, and even a few actual anime DVDs. Some vendors even sold cosplay related items for those cosplayers who needed to make repairs to their outfits.



Keith Whitcomb Jr., Critic Staff

John Day-Fratto dressed as a robot from an anime series at Anime Boston 2007.

LSC competes using Facebook for free comedy show

By SHANE BEAM
CRITIC CORRESPONDENT

Stand-up comic and CollegeHumor.com original writer Steve Hofstetter has announced a contest between college campuses around the world: whichever campus has the most members join his group on Facebook gets a free show.

And LSC is in the running.

The contest was conceived as a grass roots method of getting students involved in the selection of entertainment at their school. "This is a great way to find out which campuses are most interested in a show," Hofstetter said. "And which campuses are most obsessed with Facebook."

Hofstetter, the most booked comedian on the college market, joined Facebook early as a Columbia alumnus and has been using it to communicate with his fans ever since. He reached 200,000 friends on Facebook last year. After being reset, he quickly reached his cap again, and now encourages people to join his group, aptly named "Steve Hofstetter is My Friend." Within minutes of the contest announcement, his group grew to almost 400 members and continues to rise into the thousands.

LSC faces stiff competition from roughly 100 other schools that have thrown their hats into the Facebook-off ring. As of April 23, there were 127 students from LSC in the group. Hofstetter thinks that will change, however, as a few campuses ballooned very quickly after word got out.

In addition to a free show, campus reps at the winning school will receive 100 free copies of Hofstetter's humorous book about college life, "Student Body Shots." The second and third place campuses also get 100 and 50 books, respectively.

To join the madness and help LSC win the contest, just log onto Facebook, search for "Steve Hofstetter is My Friend," and join the group.

Safety issues discussed regarding late-night bus service

By MICHAEL HAULENBEEK
UVM CYNIC CORRESPONDENT

Students packed tightly onto a late-night bus, all of which lately have been experiencing safety issues for students and drivers. In an effort to quell overfilling and unruly behavior, Transportation Services has added a bus and stepped up security on weekend late-night routes.

According to late-night driver Dave Lobdell, up to 80 students at a time have been riding buses that have a safe capacity of 50.

"They pull the doors open after I try to close them," Lobdell said. "It makes the trip up Maple St. particularly hard on the bus, causing all kinds of mechanical problems."

Lobdell regularly experiences students running in front of moving buses and bringing marijuana and open containers of alcohol on board. "This is lawsuit material," he said.

"Students are banging on the sides of buses at the stops," Katherine Decarreau, director of Transportation and Parking Services said. "It makes the drivers think they've hit someone."

According to Decarreau, drivers are liable for what happens on their bus, and many are in fear of losing their commercial driver's licenses. "That's their livelihood," she pointed out.

The late-night routes were originally added as a way to move students through neighborhoods quietly, and "to maintain good relationships between the university and the people of Burlington," Lobdell said.

Transportation Services recently added a third bus to the late-night route and tripled security at bus stops in attempts to alleviate growing problems, according to Lobdell. And so far it's working.

"Last weekend was the best weekend we've had," Decarreau said, regarding the first weekend new measures were in place. She expects them to remain for the rest of the semester, "unless something goes very wrong."

SGA has also helped in bringing order to bus stops by talking to students and distributing chocolate and flyers during late-night bus service hours. Lobdell attributes much of the recent improvement to their work.

Lobdell alluded to the possibility of the termination of the late-night route. "There has been talk about it," Lobdell said, "but I think getting kids in and out of the neighborhoods safely is a worthwhile goal."

Student safety has become a primary focus for the late-night bus service. Lobdell made it clear that he has noticed an increase in female passengers since Michelle Gardner-Quinn's kidnapping in September.

Decarreau says termination is unlikely. "With some cooperation from students - by not engaging in unsafe actions and in challenging other students who do - I think we can have a successful system."

The late-night routes were originally added as a way to move students through neighborhoods quietly, and "to maintain good relationships between the university and the people of Burlington," Lobdell said.

Late-night bus service has been available since the fall of 2002. According to Lobdell, overcrowding has always been an issue.

Decarreau says behavior problems began to arise in the 2005-2006 academic year, and have escalated ever since.

Sudoku

		8		7		5		1
	5	7		1		4		
6	1				2			9
1		5			6	2		3
	8						1	
3		2	4			8		7
5			9				7	2
		9		6		1	5	
7		4		2		3		

Instructions

-Fill in all the blank spaces with digits 1-9
-Each row must contain digits 1-9
-Each column must contain digits 1-9
-Each 3 by 3 grid must contain digits 1-9

LSC Weather

Weekend Forecast
STUDENT METEOROLOGIST: Scott Jaeger

Currently, an area of low pressure located in the Midwest will continue to move eastward and provide the Northeast Kingdom with unsettled conditions for the next couple of days. On Friday, the rain in the morning will taper off to scattered showers in the afternoon and linger into the early portions of Sunday. This weekend won't be a complete washout for our region as low pressure moves well to our east providing us with clearing skies for our day on Sunday. High temperatures will remain average for the next couple of days reaching into the upper 50's to lower 60's.

Tonight
Low: 38-45
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers throughout the night. Patchy fog is possible after midnight. Southerly winds around 5-10 mph becoming calm. Additional rainfall amounts of less than a tenth of an inch

Saturday
High: 55-62
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers. Winds calm becoming north around 5-10 mph. Rainfall amounts of less than a tenth of an inch.

Sunday
Low: 36-43
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers. Patchy valley fog is possible after midnight. Northerly winds around 5-10 mph. Additional rainfall amounts of less than a half of an inch.

THE WHITE MARKET
LYNDONVILLE & ST. JOHNSBURY
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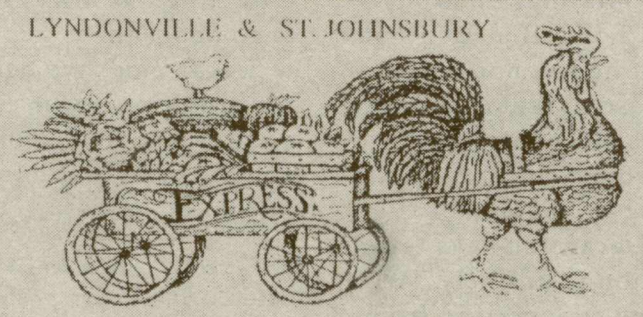
7 4 8 5 0 9 9


GROCERIES - MEATS - PRODUCE - DELICATESSEN

Horoscopes

Libra (Sept 23-Oct 22) You've been having bad luck with women lately. Have you tried pastries? Donuts won't judge you as much.

Scorpio (Oct 23-Nov 21) Grey skies are gonna clear up, so put on a happy grin. That is unless you haven't been brushing your teeth; in that case, close your mouth and keep it that way.

Sagittarius (Nov 22-Dec 21) Bet all of your money on black 31. You'll thank me after the operation.

Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 19) You're the type of person who needs validation from others, but not the type of person who can actually get it. All is not lost though. Try giving people around you candy to earn their love and respect.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 18) You left the oven on. When the cop asks you where the fire is at, tell him your house.

Pisces (Feb 19-Mar 20) It's high time you changed your hobbies. That game you like to play when people's backs are turned is offensive. Try something new, like tennis.

Aries (Mar 21-Apr 19) I see mold in your future. Clean your feet, air out your mattress, and for Pete's sake, check the bread before you eat it.

Taurus (Apr 20-May 20) Now is the time to learn something about growing tomatoes. Soon it will be an Olympic sport. Those who did their homework will prosper, while those fools still growing cabbages will be left in the dust.

Gemini (May 21-Jun 21) Delete those files from your computer. You know the ones I'm talking about.

Cancer (Jun 22-Jul 22) Jupiter is in alignment with Venus this quarter, but you've got other things to be worried about. Like that last test you took for that class you're having a hard time in. Better write "pretty please" on your request to graduate form.

Leo (Jul 23-Aug 22) Chicken wings are not recyclable. No amount of surgery can give a wingless chicken back its livelihood. Buffalos are out of luck too.

Virgo (Aug 23-Sept 22) You're friends don't know what they're doing. It's up to you to set the record straight regarding the incident with the couch. Don't let you-know-who spin things the wrong way.

Criminal Justice Word Search

Can you find the words related to criminal justice in the word search below?

E N A O M E S P A J I V
I R I E G Y L N N Y L H
W Y F E T I E E F E Y Y
U A N O U L F A R F A U
A N T C G T T E T G N M
M L N J N E P M C I N S
T G E M L L E E G F J A
N L R Y A T G E G E A E
R I I L D U J O I D S J
C L O E N D Y J U R D S
L I T D N C G O I I S M
E I T U W O S D G L L U
C L A E R U T A A S N A
E L C L Y L F O E F F I
U I E U R F F L I L N F

Word List

Jury
Bail
Court
Criminal
Defendant
Felony
Guilty
Hearing
Innocent
Jail
Judge
Justice
Lawyer
Misdemeanor
Plaintiff

Rail jam comes to campus during annual earth week

By JORDAN ROYER
CRITIC STAFF

While most people prayed for the snow to melt, there were a handful of people around campus that weren't quite ready to let go of winter.

On April 20, with the sun shining bright, piles of snow were few and far between. That is of course, until a group of students, headed by Elton Bonneville and Nate Bevelaqua, began gathering snow by the truckload and dumping it on the hill at the campus entrance. Forty plus loads later, the group had created a mini-rail park for skiers and snowboarders.

The course that was created was not strictly out of fun however. As part of Earth Day, Bonneville and Bevelaqua prepared a Jam Session.

For those not familiar with such events, it works like this: Skiers and riders take as many runs as they want, grinding the rails and boxes, while doing tricks, that is, if you are good enough. Those who throw gnarly runs, get prizes.

The registration for the event was free and open to anyone after filling out a release form. The two were also responsible for getting sponsors for the event that provided participants with the prizes for competing.

The idea was created as a part of one of Kelly Rossiter's classes.

"I think it was a huge success. I mean, no one left in an ambulance," said Nick DelGrosso, one of the many participants. "It was a fun setup and I know they put time and thought into setting up the layout."

Along with the loads of snow, rails and prizes, those in attendance were also treated to a barbeque. The event began just after 5 p.m. and went until dark with people grinding rails until the snow melted into a muddy mess.

"It was an overall good time. I think under the conditions, it being a non profit event and the weather, they couldn't have done it any better," DelGrosso said.

Jordan Royer, Critic Staff

Casey Morrison, an LSC freshman, participates in a ramp jam last Friday afternoon.

Hornets clobber Panthers in opening day

By ANDREW KOCH
CRITIC STAFF

A sunny, 80-degree afternoon this past Monday made Hornets baseball fans forget about the snow this month that had wiped out the first two weeks of the team's home schedule.

Now that the snow is gone from their field, the Hornets have a lot of games to play in a short amount of time as their already short season has been shortened even more, with doubleheaders almost every day for the rest of the season.

"It's hard because we're basically shorthanded on the pitching staff. Your arms are hurting. Everybody's got to play everywhere; the guys are tired mentally and physically. You just got to play hard and battle through it," said sophomore lefty Matt Picard about playing 10 doubleheaders in 12 days.

Opening Day began with LSC History Professor and author Paul Searls throwing out the ceremonial first pitch just before the Hornets' first home doubleheader of the year against the Plymouth State Panthers.

As for the games, the Hornets dominated for virtually the entire first game. After the Panthers scored five times to take a 5-1 lead after the second inning, the Hornets offense got into gear, scoring six runs in the third inning and 13 unanswered runs overall on their way to a 14-5 win in the first game. Picard got the complete game win, giving up five earned runs on nine hits, walking five and striking out eight. On offense, junior Rob Malloy was perfect at the plate, going 4-4 with a double, a triple, and three runs scored. Picard helped himself at the plate with a pair of singles. Freshman first baseman Adam Pelletier and sophomore shortstop Josh Wells each had three hits for the Hornets.

In the second game, senior pitcher and captain Jesse Hersey gave up a pair of runs in the first inning, but the Hornets would tie the game in the third on an RBI double by Josh Wells. In the fourth, Pelletier doubled to start a four-run inning for the Hornets. In the fifth, Plymouth would score three times in the top of the fifth, chasing Hersey from the mound. Jordan Royer came in and proceeded to stop the Panthers from doing any more damage in the inning.

The Hornets would get an insurance run in the sixth inning on another RBI double by Malloy, making the final score 8-5 Lyndon. Hersey got the win for the Hornets, with Royer pitching 2 2/3 innings in relief, giving up a run on three hits. Malloy had another perfect game at the plate, going 3-3 with a double.

On Tuesday, the Hornets nearly swept another doubleheader, this time on the road at UMaine-Farmington. The Hornets won the first game of the doubleheader 5-3, and had a 9-7 lead going into the bottom of the seventh, but the Beavers would score three in the bottom of the inning against Royer to walk off with the 10-9 win.

On Wednesday, St. Michael's College paid their annual visit to the Northeast Kingdom. After the Purple Knights won the first game 8-4, the Hornets made things much more interesting in the second game. Catcher Jake Ainsworth opened the scoring in the bottom of the first with a two-run homer just to the left of the 374-foot sign in dead center field. That however, would be the lone offensive highlight of the day for the Hornets until the seventh, when the Hornets would put two runners on with one out, but failed to bring anyone in for the win or force extra innings, as the Purple Knights escaped with a 4-3 win.

The Hornets' busy stretch continues with an off-day today, followed by a pair of doubleheaders this weekend against Southern Maine Community College (Saturday) and Briarcliffe College (Sunday). On Monday, the Hornets travel to Vermont Tech. Following an off day Tuesday, the team will play a nine inning game at Middlebury on Wednesday. The Hornets will wrap up the season with a doubleheader at home against Norwich University on May 3, which will be Senior Day.

Upcoming Games:
(Times indicate start of first game)

Baseball (At Skip Pound Field)
4/28
LSC vs. SMCC, 1 p.m.
4/29
LSC vs. Briarcliffe College, 1 p.m.
5/3
LSC vs. Norwich, 2 p.m.

Softball (At Skip Pound Field)
4/28
LSC vs. SMCC, 1 p.m.
4/29
LSC vs. Johnson State, 2 p.m.

Softball Roundup

By JACOB MARDIN
CRITIC STAFF

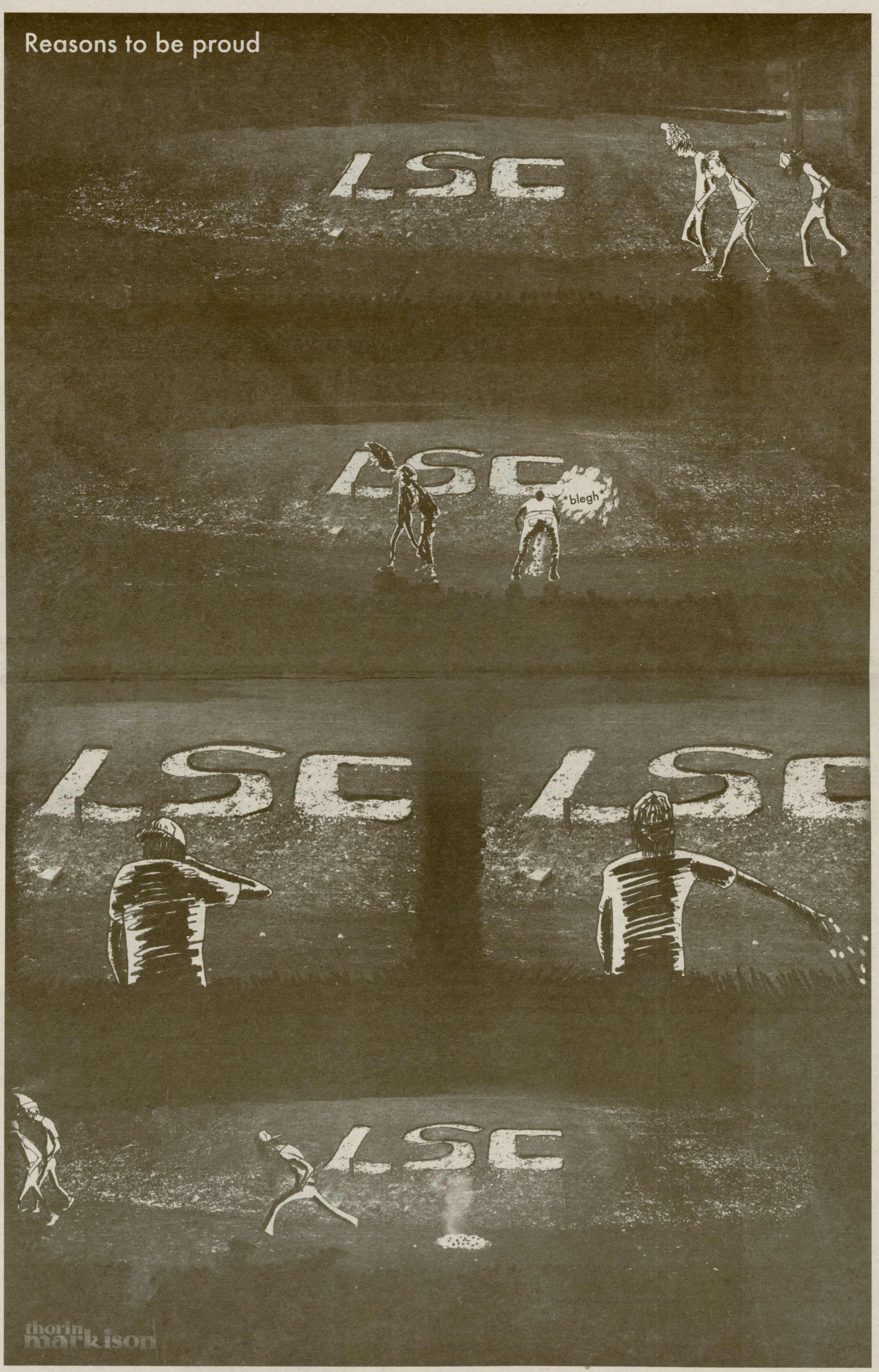
The Hornets softball team lost two doubleheaders in Maine earlier this week, falling to Saint Joseph's College of Maine on Monday and the University of Maine-Farmington on Tuesday.

LSC lost its first game against St. Joseph's 10-2 in five innings, giving up 18 hits during the course of the game.

The second game saw the Hornets pitching calm down the Monk's bats, but they still had trouble mustering any offense, losing 4-0. Ashlea Ireland was the losing pitcher, giving up three earned runs and recording three strikeouts. The winning pitcher was Colleen Delahanty, who pitched a complete game.

The following day the Hornets took on the University of Maine-Farmington, losing the first game 12-0. The only hit for LSC came off the bat of Josee Patenaude, while Ireland took the complete game loss.

The second game the Hornets pitching was more dominant, allowing only five hits, but they still took the loss 4-2. Patenaude pitched a complete six-inning game in the loss.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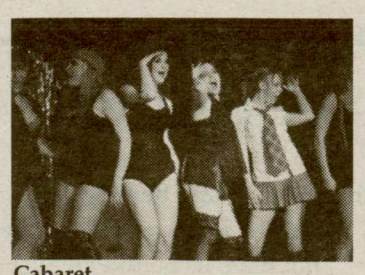
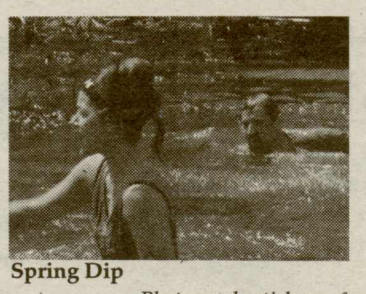


Cabaret

Photos on pg. 7

The Critic

Serving the student voice of the Northeast Kingdom



Spring Dip

Photos and article pg. 6

Lyndonville, Vermont | Friday, May 4, 2007 | Volume 53, Number 20

Students will experience a six percent tuition increase for the 07-08 school year

By JACOB MARDIN AND MARY WHEELER
CRITIC STAFF

This year, LSC students paid either $6,648, for a Vermont resident, or $14,376 if they were from out-of-state. Last year saw a tuition increase of 5.5 percent, while the previous year the increase was 5.5-5.6 percent.

Attending Lyndon State College will get a little more expensive next year, as the Vermont State College board of trustees voted to increase tuition rates for all schools in the VSC system. The vote will also raise room and board rates for the 2007-2008 school year.

The vote passed 8-5, but Gov. Jim Douglas, who is also a board member, disagreed with the results and wanted to see a less substantial increase. Douglas wanted an increase of only four percent, while the board voted for a five to six percent increase.

LSC will see a combined increase of 5.03 percent for tuition and room and board. Tuition alone will increase 6 percent, or $504 for Vermont students, and $1,080 for students from out-of-state. Johnson State College and Castleton State College will have similar increases, while Vermont Technical College will see an increase of seven percent for tuition.

This year, LSC students paid either $6,648, for a Vermont resident, or $14,376 if they were from out-of-state. Last year saw a tuition increase of 5.5 percent, while the previous year the increase was 5.5-5.6 percent.

According to Robert Clarke, chancellor of the VSC, the rising costs of health care as well as increased enrollment were the main reasons for the increase. Health care costs are expected to increase by 21 percent.

At LSC, applications this year are up by 20 percent over this time last year, while deposits are up 15 percent and inquiries are up 25 percent. In all Vermont state colleges, the percentage of Vermonters attending is increasing.

Gov. Douglas proposed a budget that would increase state funding for state schools by 3.2 percent, with the House of Representatives upping the percentage to 3.5, but Clarke said that number wouldn't be enough to cover health costs.

Another reason for the increase, according to board Chairman Gary Moore, is the fact that schools have been offering more expensive programs, like nursing or dental care.

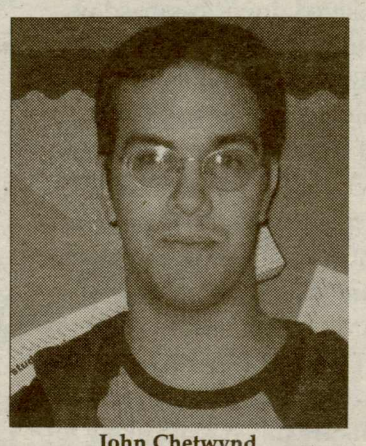
Jason Gibbs, a spokesman for Gov. Douglas, said that the governor is "disappointed" that the board voted on raising tuition instead of having college administrators work to lower costs.

"Nobody left there happy with the tuition, I can tell you that," Moore said.

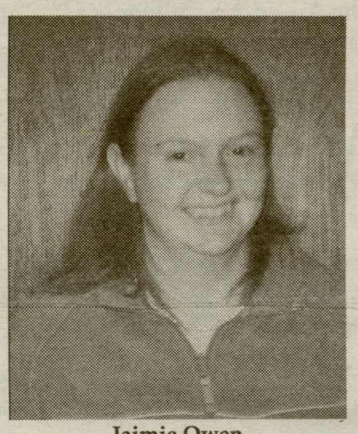
Douglas recently spoke on the furture of Vermont at the Black Bear Tavern in St. Johnsbury. Vermont has the least affordable state colleges in the country, and despite the tuition increase, Douglas hopes that the next generation commission will aid more Vermont students. The commission, consisting of a board of four members appointed by Douglas, is responsible for creating a plan that would encourage Vermonters to live and work in the state. It's also intended to provide all Vermonters with the opportunity for a post-secondary education that is obtainable and affordable through various loans, scholarships, and grants.

The commission has identified four important components to accomplish such goals which include: "integrate and coordinate the state's economic development, workforce development, and education system, dramatically increase state funding for postsecondary education and training, provide additional state funding for postsecondary education and training, and raise postsecondary aspirations by markedly strengthening career awareness beginning in elementary school."

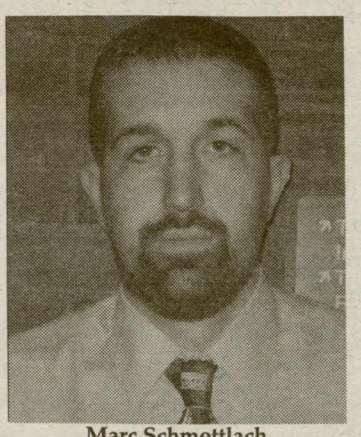
The Critic Asks:
What are your views on the tuition increase?



John Chetwynd
Junior
"It's will be a lot harder for students to get financial aid and they may have to take out more loans."



Jaimie Owen
Sophomore
"I'm going to probably have to take out more loans because of the increase."



Marc Schmottlach
Senior
"It's unfair to the students especially at this school."

Kelly Avona
Sophomore
"I think it's ridiculous. I don't think education should be this expensive."

Status conference sets Lacey's court date

By KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
MANAGING EDITOR

Jeremy Lacey, former General Manager of WWLR, was scheduled to appear in court on May 1 for a status conference involving charges that Lacey failed to properly comply with the state's sex offender registry laws.

Bill Cobb, Lacey's lawyer, appeared on Lacey's behalf, Lacey having filed a successful waiver of appearance, citing a scheduling conflict.

"Our position is that he mailed them what they asked for and it was lost," Cobb told reporters outside the courtroom. "They didn't give him another chance before charging him."

"If he took the stand and said he mailed them his information, it could be a credibility issue," Cobb said.

Under Vermont law, sex offenders must notify the state about their current address, location of employment, and where they are enrolled in school.

According to News 7, in September of 2005, Lacey informed the state that his address was an LSC P.O. Box. The letter was returned as undeliverable and an arrest warrant was issued in December of 2006. Lacey pleaded innocent to the charges on March 27.

Lacey is scheduled for a pre-trial conference on June 5.

Due to the recent events surrounding Lacey, including his alleged involvement in the April 16 alcohol incident, WWLR has stopped broadcasting shows with student DJs for the remainder of the semester. The college administration hasn't identified those involved in the incident or the results of the hearings that were held earlier this week.

Lars Christensen has taken over for Lacey as interim general manager.

"We believe that it is in the best interest of the club to close the station for the rest of the semester due to the recent events and members involved," Ashley Mullen, a member of WWLR's interim executive board said. "This may demonstrate to the administration that we too are taking actions, awaiting resolution, and ready to start over with new executive management come next semester."

What's Inside:

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Opinions Pg. 3-4

Sports/News Pg. 8

www.lyndonstate.edu/critic

Study shows stress can hinder academic success

By ANDREA ZIMMERMANN
DAILY EGYPTIAN (SOUTHERN ILLINOIS U.) (U-WIRE) CARBONDALE, ILL.

Aimee Elkin is going to be ready this time.

With her books, notes and snacks spread out on a table in the Student Center, Elkin and her friend Amanda Fortin hunkered down Wednesday to study for finals week.

Elkin, a freshman from Batavia studying business, said she didn't prepare as much as she should have for her math class before her December final, but this time she would not be caught off-guard.

Though Elkin said she can handle stress well, female students are much more likely to cite stress as their biggest obstacle to academic success as compared to their male counterparts, according to a study by the American College Health Association.

The study, which has been done each fall and spring semester since 2000, asks male and female students across the country what keeps them from performing their best in school. Each year, both groups say stress is the top problem, but women are more likely to cite stress than men.

Barb Elam, coordinator of the Wellness Center, said the pressure to perform well on exams can be overwhelming for students. She advises students to try not to be their own toughest critic.

"If they've gotten this far to be in college, they can do it," she said. "They may not believe it, but they can do it. They've done hard things before and it really is possible to be successful no mater how the semester has gone."

She also warned against taking in too much caffeine, through coffee or pills, because that can be dangerous and would most likely produce adverse results.

Alvin Jefferson, a second-year graduate student in computer science from Calumet City, said there are no shortcuts for preparing for finals and he seems to make it through with his own habits of studying and taking breaks.

"I kind of just try to cram as much as I can before my final," Jefferson said.

Elam said stepping away from books can be good but students should try to stay away from distractions such as the popular social networking sites Facebook and Myspace. Those are treats for after studying, but they can be ways to procrastinate -- no matter how compelling they are," Elam said.

Students should make sure they eat even if they are nervous and have no appetite, she said. The brain needs food to operate and breaks for food or a short, hot shower are just as important as reading that chemistry book again, she said.

The Newman Catholic Student Center plans to have its bi-annual Midnight Breakfast. Boasting a breakfast spread of pancakes, sausage, eggs, sno-cones and an assortment of beverages, the feast will run from 10 p.m. to 1 or 2 a.m. at the center at 715 S. Washington St.

Tutors will be on hand and the sanctuary will be open for students to eat and study.

Organizers from the Racial/Ethnic Minority Student Program also plan to have a study session from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. in the Big Muddy Room in the basement of the Student Center. Tutors, pizza and drinks will be available and there will be a raffle each hour and one student could win an iPod, organizer Lisa Bentley said.

The Recreation Center will not have its Saluki Finals Finish, because that is only for the fall semester, said interim director Sally Wright, but the center will hold its regular facility hours. The center's massage therapists will be available to work out any kinks left over from studying, she said.

Sheryl Hinchcliff, a massage therapist at the Rec, said a massage can be a great way to relieve stressed muscles. People can help their muscles on their own by simply stretching if they stay in a certain position for a long time. She also said they can do simple meditation techniques such as deep breathing to refocus on their work, she said.

"Just taking some time to yourself can be enough to put you in the right place," Hinchcliff said.

Writing center seeks tutors for upcoming academic year

By JOSHUA DAMASO
CRITIC STAFF

As the school year comes to a close, Lyndon State College is looking for applicants for tutoring positions for the 2007-2008 school year.

On Thursday, LSC's held its annual tutor appreciation day, and amongst the conversation throughout the day was the large number of graduating writing tutors – nearly 60 percent of the current staff - and the open pool for applicants for next year.

Director of Student Academic Development Debra Bailin said with so many seniors on the move, there is now a need for interested returning students to fill the positions for next year.

Bailin said tutors can be an essential part of the learning process for their peers, and students who seek help from tutors often end up creating a positive learning experience for both students involved.

"Tutors are essential to the academic well-being and self-esteem of other students," she said. "Students need to be able to get help from people who aren't grading them."

Bailin also believes that students who become tutors often end up becoming more impassioned in their field when they start having to learn how to teach the information to other individuals.

"They tend to be students who are excited about the subjects they work in. That kind of excitement is contagious," she said.

Currently, Lyndon State employs approximately 40 total student-tutors, which includes the Writing Center, Math Lab, and independent course-specific tutors. That's a win-win, according to Bailin, because students who become tutors are working in their field whenever they sit down with another student.

"People who tutor get good experience at problem solving and honing their skills all while earning extra money," she said.

Several current tutors agreed with Bailin's assessment and expressed hope that there will be great applicants to fill the spots left by the departing seniors. But with the position, they all agreed, comes big responsibility.

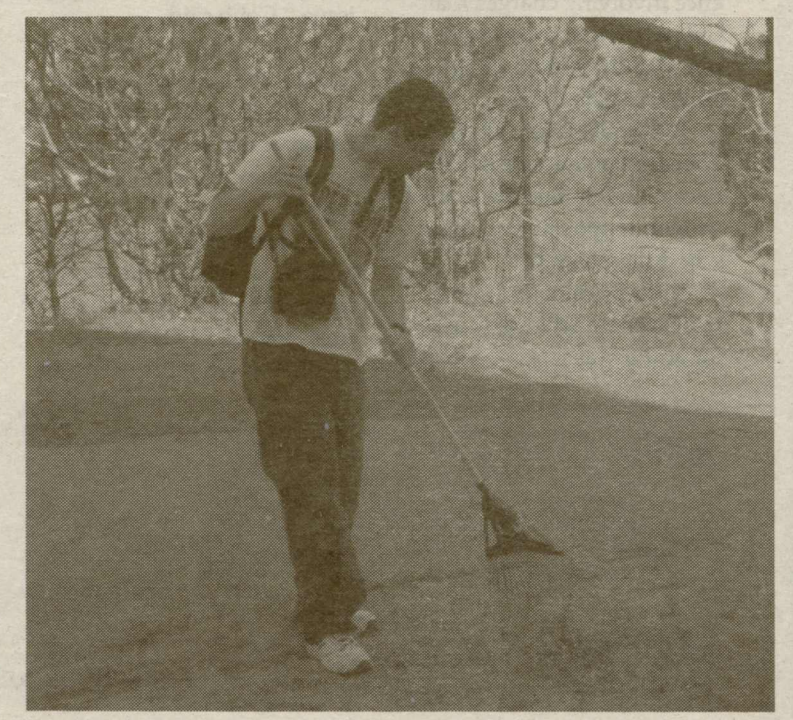
"I think a great part of tutoring is adapting your thought patterns to the (student you're tutoring), and to give them a better idea of how the writing process works," said senior Writing Tutor Caleb Byerly.

"I really like being around people," added junior Writing Tutor Ryan Ayers, "and getting to learn about their writing style. Students are relying on you to teach them and to gain a better understanding of how to use their skills."

"A lot of people are good writers, but sometimes they just need a hand in figuring it all out."

For students interested in a Writing Center position for the 2007-2008 school year, contact Debra Bailin in the Academic Support Department.

Campus Snapshots:
The LSC Sigma Zeta math and science club cleans up the campus Wednesday afternoon



Kathryn Mozer, Photos
Marc Baribault (top), and Jim Politis, members of Sigma Zeta, were hard at work making the campus trash free.

Audacity of Ignorance in America

By KENNETH ROSS
SPECIAL TO THE CRITIC

It was not the famous keynote address that Illinois Senator Barack Obama gave at the 2004 National Convention—that's not what made him popular. Oh no, it wasn't that simple and effective address that was precise, to the point, and powerful, delivered in just under 20 minutes, which inspired much of the United States to remember—or in some cases to learn—that there is not two Americas: a red or a blue, an elephant or a donkey, but there is only one United States, offering to all those who seek it, the American Dream—a promising concept that has been proven throughout history, and was rekindled by "the hope of a skinny kid with a funny name who believes that America has a place for him, too."

Word on some street corners and even in some LSC classrooms is that America does not have a place for Obama, and it certainly wasn't that rousing address, which made him a household name. That wasn't it. Nope, not according to an LSC student who simply put Obama's success like this: "He publishes one book and now he's popular. America won't vote for him".

That's a shame, because Obama has published two books, and is under contract to publish two more; one of which all the profits are going to charities. Someone should tell Obama that publishing books isn't going to gain him the American support needed for votes; it'll only increase his popularity. Hold on one second… Isn't campaigning a popularity contest? Yes it is. If Tony Montana were to make a run at office, he would break it down as such: "First you get the popularity, then you get the votes, then you win the election."

Another student reveals Obama's full name, putting emphasis on his middle name (this kid can read): Hussein. "America won't elect him with a middle name like that!"

Oh hell no. Not our country. Of course we won't. It's assumed that this student is linking Obama to the late Iraqi Dictator Saddam Hussein. It can be even further assumed that this student thinks "that America" is extremely narrow minded and stupid. Way to be! We are stupid. We like to point it out. Barack Hussein Obama is a dictator's name! That's not American. We can't elect him. America won't elect a dictator or a terrorist.

While Hussein was a terrorist to his own people, he never flattened our cities with bombs, and it has been proven that he didn't have the weapons of mass destruction to be any kind of serious threat to the U.S., which, by the way, was the basis of invading Iraq; that's why we leveled all those neighborhoods in Baghdad, making the work of terrorists on September 11, 2001, look ever so amateur. Those terrorist bastards have nothing on our bombs! Oh yeah, I nearly forgot, Shock and Awe happened long before all those suicide bombers in training even set up shop in Iraq. So why won't America vote for a guy with a middle name Hussein? That's right: narrow-mindedness. Say it with pride!

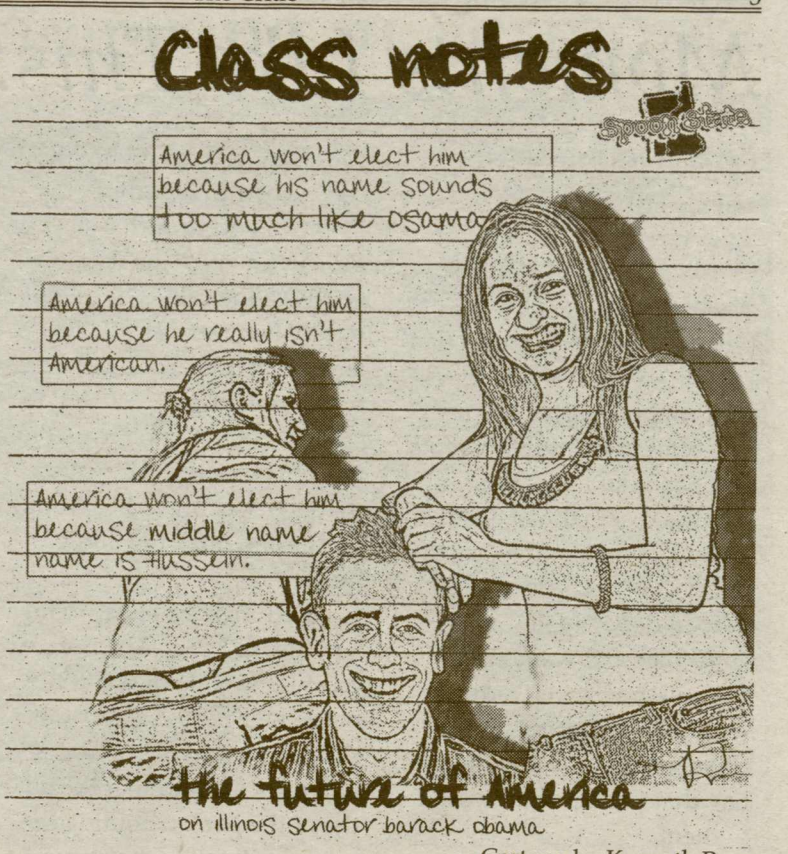
Of course the obvious, all the hard ass American know-it-alls know it: "Obama rhymes with Osama, YUCK!" Yuck is right, great Americans. How many times have you heard someone utter such truth with the clarity and knowledge that all us 20-somethings possess? This guy is probably like third cousins with Osama Bin Laden. If we elect him, we're with Al-Qaeda. We should have him investigated before he pushes his popularity with a third book. Maybe, just maybe, we—with our narrow, little, pip-squeaking minds—should ship the Illinois Senator to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, for a dance with torture, Dubya style, the American way. Rock and roll! America will not elect a terrorist!

What's a terrorist without some good old-fashioned terrorist schooling? A little gem of a news network called the Fox News Channel has done us all a favor by recently discovering and promptly reporting a dirty little secret about the skinny kid with a terrorist name: Obama attended elementary school in Indonesia, a country that's 86 percent Muslim. Fox knows news! These guys skip right past all that mainstream propaganda, with no agenda except to report straight news. Thank you Fox News Channel, thank you for skipping all the B.S. of politics and enlightening all of us with this remarkable little find. Those four years in Indonesia as a child have likely skewed his mind into that of an American hating terrorist. Those four elementary years from ages 6 – 10 certainly outweigh the degrees Obama has achieved at Columbia University and Harvard Law School.

Is Obama even American? Not according to one student here, who blatantly declared: "I'll vote for anyone as long as it's not that black guy; he's not even American." Case closed. U.S. Senator Barrack Obama is not American. America will not vote for a flash in the pan non-U.S. citizen. How the hell did he even make it this far? Those slippery cracks make for easy riding these days, but now we've got him. What's that? Awe shucks! Dang it all, Obama is American. We should have known that.

What we do know is that we can't lose the war in Iraq, right? Pulling out is losing. This Obama nut wants to pull our troops out. Hell no! We are in it to win it. If we pull out now those terrorist bastards will follow us home. Why? It's simple, it's not that we have neglected to improve our homeland security, which we have, it's because Senator John McCain said so, and that guy has some real American balls, even though the majority of our population probably believes it's more productive and less violent to torture baby bunny rabbits with superglue and high powered LSD than to ever vote for a Republican again—but those Americans are dumb hippies.

So Barack Obama can continue to do all kinds of great things like make perfect speeches, win future debates, write his stupid little books and continue to gain popularity and momentum, but America has spoken—in the classroom and on the news, and America will not elect Obama.



Cartoon by Kenneth Ross

The issue with drug use

By JONATHAN MATTHIESSEN KYLE
UVM CYNIC

Some use them for medicinal purposes. Some use them for recreational purposes. Some use them as performance enhancers. And some aren't even aware that they use them. The point is that a substantial portion of the population uses them for one reason or another.

Drugs are one of the biggest domestic issues facing the United States. Our prisons are filled with drug users and dealers and drug related crime is one of the biggest killers on our streets.

But is the danger in the drugs themselves or the situations that surround their use and distribution?

Because the most desirable drugs are often the ones that are illegal or are obtained illegally, their production and distribution is almost entirely underground and uncontrolled. This often results in the prices being inflated and the purity difficult for users to predict.

It's a given that even the most pure drugs can have extremely negative side effects. That being said, it is much easier for the user to determine the proper dose and calculate how they will be affected when the substance is controlled.

Am I arguing for the outright legalization of all drugs?

Not quite. But maybe.

Let's face it, people are going to use drugs regardless of their legality. Making drugs legal would at least ensure that the drugs being taken are controlled and were produced in legitimate conditions.

While there might be an initial spike is overall usage, but more likely than not those numbers would level off.

If you need proof, look no further than Holland, where the use "soft drugs" such as marijuana and mushrooms has been legalized. In Holland, these drugs can be bought over the counter and their potency and effects are usually described.

The laws against the use and distribution of hard drugs in Holland, such as heroin or cocaine, are similarly strict to those in the United States. However, the rates at which these drugs are used are considerably lower.

While the Dutch are considered quite tolerant in their attitudes towards drug use, the degree to which they actually partake is relatively small considering the availability.

It's a gross oversimplification to say that outright legalization of all drugs would solve drug-related problems in the United States.

It would, however, save billions of dollars which are being spent fighting drugs and incarcerating drug criminals, eliminate an illegal drug industry which ruins countless lives every day and make using these drugs safer than it ever has been.

The money that had been spent on the "War on Drugs" could instead be spent treating drug abusers and accurately informing people on the dangers of drug use.

You can't stop drug use; you can only hope to contain it. The best way to do this is by taking drugs off the streets and making them safely accessible for those who are going to use them regardless of their legality.

Moments Like This: Through the Years

By TRISH PENNYPACKER
CRITIC COLUMNIST

My grandfather used to rise before dawn, pull on his blue pants, button up his flannel shirt, slide his shoulders into green suspenders, push his feet into tall, rubber boots and head out to the barn. By the time I forced my sleepy self out of bed, into a pair of blue jeans and a sweatshirt, gulped down a glass of orange juice and walked into the milk house, the radio would be humming and the cows would be munching the hay that Gramps had tossed to them.

"Nice morning," he'd say as he poured milk into a bowl for the cats. "There's a new Jersey calf to be fed."

Excitedly, I would run past the slobbering cows in their stanchions until I found the newborn calf. Dropping to my knees, I'd offer my fingers to the weak little beast, and I'd laugh as the calf wobbled and shook as it tried to stand to meet me.

While I attached myself to the new calf, Gramps mixed the formula, poured it into a bottle and heated the bottle in a bucket of hot water. Although he taught me how to take care of the calves, and it was usually my morning chore, he enjoyed giving the calves their first bottles.

"Oh, you're such a sweet girl, aren't you?" he'd croon gently to the calf as he held it tightly between his bowed legs. With his thick, cracked fingers, Gramps would try to slide the bottle into the calf's mouth. Once the calf realized that it was being fed, it would nudge and buck the bottle hungrily.

Teaching a calf how to take a bottle isn't easy. The hungry creature will slobber and the bottle will get too slimy and slippery; sometimes the calf will buck so hard that the bottle, or the person holding the bottle, will fall to the ground.

When this happened, Gramps would mutter, "sugar teats," pull himself back up, and brush the sawdust off of his clothes. Then he would calmly say, "Now, now," as he repositioned the calf between his knees and gripped the bottle tighter.

Gramps' gentleness taught me empathy. As most dairy farmers know, when a bull calf is born, it usually goes to the slaughter house within a day or two after birth. Gramps told me not to get attached to the bulls, but I would watch him scratching their fuzzy heads. "You're a mighty handsome fella, aren't you?" he'd say as he generously fed them their milk. Although he never said such, I don't think he ever got used to the idea that the bulls had to go.

After the struggle to succeed as a small farmer became too difficult, the cattle were auctioned off. Now, he watches the empty barnyard through the window. I don't think he has grown used to this idea either.

As he steps outside to get the mail, a couple of cats scurry to the porch step and he sings to them in his throaty voice, "Pretty kitty, you are a good kitty." He chuckles as they rub against his legs and arch their backs for a friendly pat. When the mailman stops, Gramps chats for a minute. He loves to tell stories of Many Mountains' Farm (the name that he gave the farm after the cattle had sold), and in his stories the past comes to life.

For a moment, the red barn isn't faded; the cows follow his voice as he calls, "Come Boss. Come Bossy." He leads them through the yellow dandelions and across the swamp full of cowslips and dragonflies. Heavy, cracked hooves plod through the mud. He opens the fence, and the cows cross the dirt

road and wander into green pastures.

The mailman drives away and Gramps looks back at the barnyard. The pasture has receded, and is overgrown by burdock and milkweed. There is still a patch of earth where the cows had trod and the grass refuses to grow.

Gramps walks back into the house. I am pouring a glass of homogenized milk from a plastic jug (I miss the fresh milk, rich with cream). "Want to watch TV," he asks.

I laugh, "Lawrence Welk?"

"Yep," he says.

I smile as I fill a plate with cookies. Some things haven't changed.

Critic Letter Box: Staff responds to recent happenings on campus

Dear Editor,

This letter comes to you from a proud, long time employee of Lyndon State College. As the Dean of the Mailroom, I am afforded a "real view" of the students who attend our institution, as I interact with them on a daily basis.

With the recent media attention of negative happenings at Virginia Tech, and at our own local college, folks have brought up the discussion about how our world is going to heck in a handbasket.

May I share with you that this negative news is of a VERY small minority of the total student body. Unfortunately this small amount of students get almost all of the media focus. The result

is people forming a negative opinion on the whole, rather than remembering that you cannot judge the forest for a tree.

Every single day I am reminded of the outstanding, positive, honest youth that we have in our midst. These students serve to be a power of example for all of us. They are of strong moral values and reassure me that our future is friendly. I consider it a privilege to work for them as an employee of Lyndon State.

Unfortunately, this MAJORITY does not get the focus, and just go about quietly, doing the right thing.

Therefore, I challenge you all to look at the bigger picture before judging all by a few. Thank you for your time.

Harry J. Swett
Dean of the Mailroom
Danville Vermont

Dear Editor,

In a time when those in power believe that secrecy and silence are the best ways to protect our freedom, it is encouraging to see others labor to ensure our right to free speech. I commend the Critic for a very successful year of providing accurate, unbiased news of the campus events that really matter to students and staff.

From last fall's move to a weekly publication, to the recent coverage of the despicable alcohol incident, it has been the Critic I have turned to in order to discover the truth. Although it is never easy to find the courage to cover important and delicate stories with fairness and thoroughness, the Critic staff has consistently produced a college newspaper that could easily compete with publications at universities ten times our size.

Likewise, I have looked forward every week to the high quality of the Critic's commentaries and features.

I am certain that I speak for a number of others in thanking Editor Mary Wheeler and her staff for working so hard to bring the truth to our community. I congratulate them all for an excellent year.

Alan Boye
Professor of English
St. Johnsbury Vermont

Have an opinion? We would love to hear from you.
Write to the Critic
Send your letters to
The Critic
Lyndon State College #7951
Lyndonville Vt. 05851
Tell us what's on your mind

2007 Critic Staff

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Mary Wheeler

Managing Editor:
Keith Whitcomb Jr

Sports Editor:
Andrew Koch

Staff: Caleb Byerly, Joshua Damaso, Sarah Donaghy, Jacob Mardin, Jessica Millhiser, Jordan Royer, Robert Rumrill, Danielle Sykes.

Adviser: Dan Williams

www.lyndonstate.edu/critic

Want to write for the Critic next year?

Have a passion for writing, photography, layout, or advertising? The Critic is currently seeking people to fill those following positions.

It's not too late to join. The Critic covers events and issues that directly affect the students at LSC. The Critic meets at 6:00 on Thursdays in Lac 409.

Contact next year's editor Keith Whitcomb Jr. at keith.whitcomb@lyndonstate.edu with any questions.

The Critic staff wishes all students, faculty and staff a safe and happy summer.

The Lyndon State College Critic can now be found on the world wide web
******
Check out the latest breaking news stories, sports, and opinions at

www.lyndonstate.edu/critic

LSC student spends time maple sugaring in Vermont

By DANIELLE SYKES
Critic Staff

One LSC Business Administration major spends some of the busiest weeks of the school year maple sugaring on his parent's property in Albany, Vermont.

April is perhaps the most hectic month for college students, but Matt Kittredge enjoys maple sugaring. He collects and boils sap from the same trees his great-grandfather tapped decades ago. The Kittredge family has updated some equipment to help speed the sugaring process, but chooses to stay true to the tradition of collecting sap in buckets.

Kittredge often devotes 12 hours on Sundays to making maple sugar. He said it's often that he'll spend his nights boiling until the late hours. The season typically runs six weeks – three weeks before Easter and three weeks after.

"We have 1,000 taps on 30 acres of land," said Kittredge. The family has upgraded to a tractor from a four-wheeler to collect the sap from buckets which has cut down on a lot of time, said Kittredge.

"It used to take 10 hours to get 500 gallons of sap," said Kittredge. "Now it takes four or five hours to get the same amount."

Boiling 40 gallons of sap will produce one gallon of maple syrup, on the average. Kittredge estimates that his family produces 100 gallons of maple syrup each year.

"You don't make a lot of money sugaring," said Kittredge, "there's a lot of overhead." He does admit that his family's insistence on doing things the old-fashioned way causes them to lose money. His experience with business concepts gained from his time at LSC help him to see how the process could be more profitable.

"I think I wear on my father's nerves," said Kittredge. "I am on his team – my suggestions are only to help him, but he just does it for fun."

While March and April are the busiest months of the maple sugaring process, work must be done year round to maintain the property. The roads that Kittredge travels while gathering sap have to be open all year to be in good shape for sugaring. During the year Kittredge devoted time to keeping the road open.

"The Valentine's Day storm" put a damper on road conditions, said Kittredge. "It's a fight to the end, but it is fun."

Kittredge is enjoying maple sugaring now, because he is concerned about what the future holds. He attended the Vermont Maple Sugar Maker's Association conference last year and became aware of the government's ideas for the industry.

"They might impose dues on people who want to distribute," Kittredge said. "They are trying to gain more control of the industry."

Kittredge fears that this might force small family operations out of business. His family does not make much on the maple syrup that they sell, so having to pay regulation fees would discourage them from selling altogether. It would be hard to make as much maple syrup without having some money coming in, said Kittredge.

He relates maple sugaring to the farming industry.

"You would see large sugar bushes, just like in the farming business," Kittredge said. Unfortunately most of the smaller businesses would be bought out and a few larger businesses would make up the industry.

Kittredge makes maple syrup, because he enjoys it so his family is choosing to sit back and worry about the government's plans if and when they take form.

Vermont produces about 700,000 gallons of maple syrup each year. To learn more visit the Web site of the Vermont Maple Sugar Maker's Association at http://www.vermontmaple.org.

Campus Happening:

What? The "Last Blast" Dance
Who? CAB, Leadership Recognition, Department of Student Life
When? Friday, May 4th, 2007 8 p.m. - 1 a.m.
Where? Rita Bole Community Room
DJ: Nathan Rossetti
FREE PIZZA, TONS OF PRIZES, ONE LAST BLAST
Last of all, IT IS ALL FOR FREE!

Danielle Sykes, Critic Staff

Sap collects in buckets during the months of March and April. (Below) a traditional Vermont sugaring house, where eventually all the collected syrup is transfered.

Academic community faces changes

By JAKE MARDIN
Critic Staff

Next year there will be some changes to the Academic Community (INT-1020) classes at LSC.

One of the big changes is linking up each class with another one. In the past, only a few INT-1020 classes were linked to another one, but next year each class will have a companion course. For example, INT-1020-L04 will be linked with SCI-1030-L06, which is Deep Impact.

"Research says linking courses is a good thing for new students," Dean of Academic Affairs Donna Dalton, said.

Other changes include Academic Community classes that are open only to certain students. One class is INT-1020-L16, which will be occupied by varsity athletes. LSC is a provisional member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), and being a member requires the school to cover certain topics, such as drug and alcohol education, as well as hazing education. The class will also cover recruiting and eligibility issues. In addition, the class will also cover the usual Academic Community topics like getting acclimated to a college environment, and will be linked to SSC-1030-L02 (Exploring the Social Sciences).

Right now, new athletes are required to attend an orientation that goes over some of these topics, but Athletic Director Christopher Ummer says that a regular class will help. "A class makes it more likely that [the information will] get absorbed," Ummer said.

A professor for the class hasn't been confirmed yet, but one candidate is Associate Professor of Business Mark Hilton. Hilton is also the Faculty Athletic Representative, and "would be a great candidate," Ummer said.

Along with this class, there will be Academic Community classes open to only students older than 22 and nursing students. The nursing class will be filled by students from Castleton State College. Dalton said that the students are those who are "working their way towards matriculation" and needed an open class.

As far as segregating Academic Community classes in the future by majors, Dalton said she would prefer the opposite approach, saying that the classes are a part of the GEU program and are an introduction to college and not to a major.

LSC'S Spring Dip for scholarships 2007

By SARAH DONAGHY
CRITIC STAFF

The first annual "Spring Dip for Scholarships" was held on Tuesday May 1 and was a great success, Pat Webster, the chair of the Faculty-Staff Scholarship Committee, said.

"When the time actually came [for the participants to dive] I was amazed at the number of people who came out to watch," Webster said.

According to Hannah Manley, the director of Alumni Relations and Development and a member of the Faculty-Staff Scholarship Committee, the event was meant to raise money for the Faculty-Staff Scholarship fund and to let students and staff have some fun during a stressful part of the semester.

Before she started working for LSC, Manley worked with the Special Olympics as Fundraiser Events Manager. While she was there they had a fundraiser they called the "Penguin Plunge." It was a similar to the "Spring Dip" except that the participants were sponsored and it was done in the winter, Manley said.

All the "Dippers" paid $10 for the chance to jump into the pond outside of the library. Despite the success the event may be improved next year by having participants collect sponsorship for the event instead of just paying the entrance fee Webster said. Faculty, staff, students, and alumni were all invited to participate. Ten people signed up and took part. According to Manley they made $180.00 from the event.

Additionally, there was a prize for best costume and eight of the ten who took part dressed up. Erica Kelleher, a junior at LSC, won the costume contest. She dressed as "LSC's 95th Anniversary Commemorative Tree" according to her application. She wore a Christmas tree on her back with all 95 reasons to be proud of LSC. For her outfit Kelleher won an overnight stay at the Stepping Stone Spa and Wellness Center.

Brenda Sweet was another of the participants who dressed for the Spring Dip. She wore a hockey uniform and dipped in memory of her brother Ed Toombs. Toombs, who passed away over the winter, is LSC's former hockey coach.

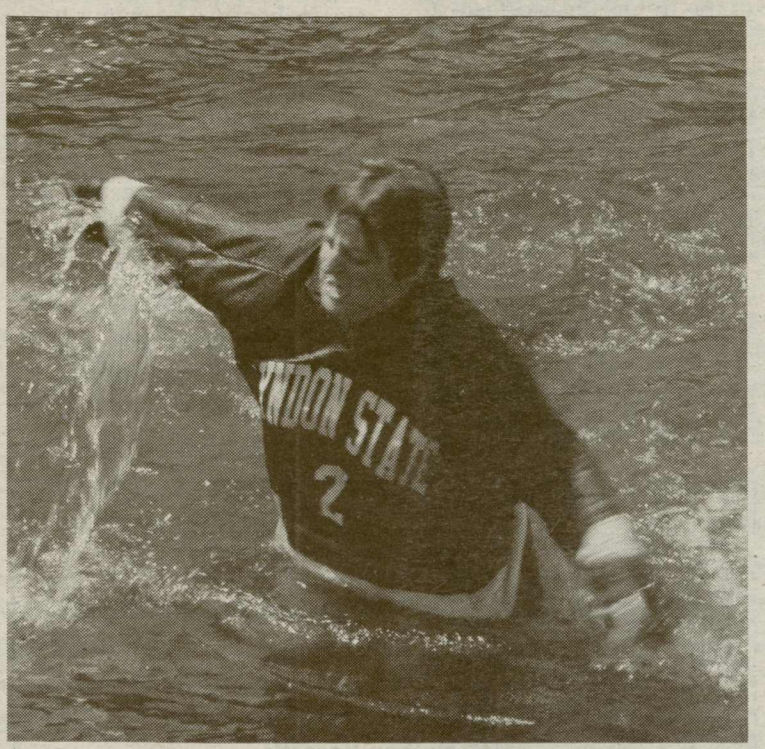
For $5 observers were told they could gather in the "Chicken Coup", a viewing area located in the Vermont Room in the LAC building, and watch while enjoying some snacks. "We had no chickens in the coup," said Webster. She felt that this was because of the excellent weather during the event. The event was to be held rain or shine and the coup was mostly a way to attract an audience even if the weather was poor and raise a few scholarship dollars in the process.

Hannah Manley, Kerri Sgarlata, and Bob Whittaker take a swim in the pond during the "spring dip."

Television studies major Josh Webber interviews LSC junior Erika Keller on the overall event.

Wayne Hamilton takes a relaxing break from his day to participate.

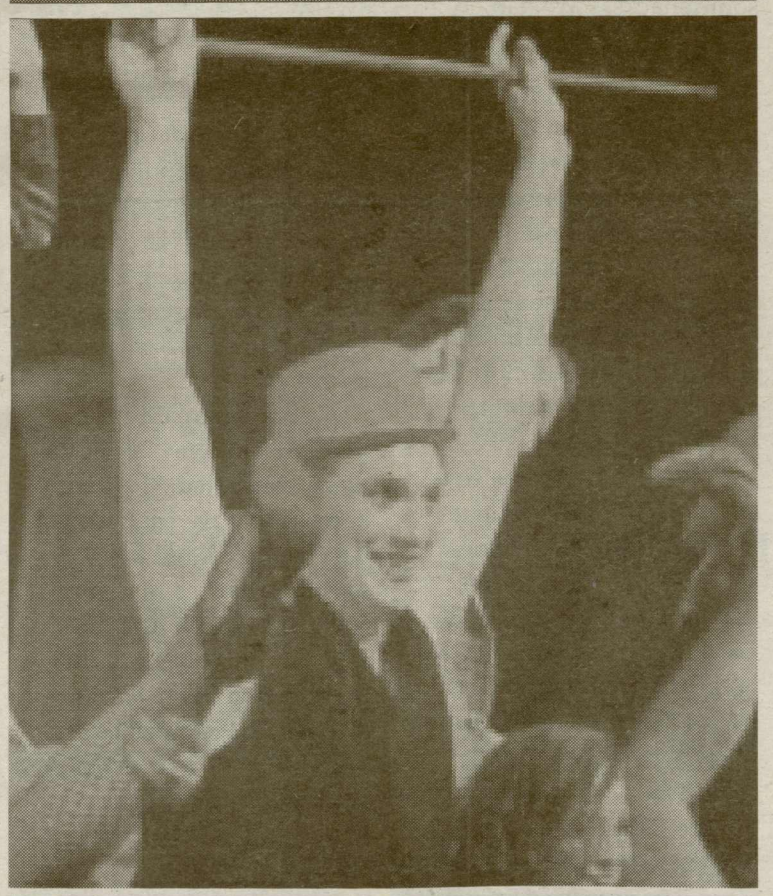
Student's and faculty race to be the first in the pond during the "spring dip," event.



Brenda Sweet struggles to get out of the pond, but finishes with a smile on her face.

Photos courtesy of Mike Dente

Director Jonathan Flom and the LSC Twilight Players presented the popular musical Cabaret April 27-29



Photos courtesy of Alex Therberge and Hayley LaPoint

The Cast

Emcee- Matthew Randall
Sally Bowles- Angela DiMillo
Cliff Bradshaw- Michael Laperle
Fraulein Schneider- Pat Jansen
Herr Schultz- Jan Clausing
Ernst Ludwig (Cliff u/s)- Justin O'Toole
Fraulein Kost (Schneider u/s)- Julie Theoret
Max- Sasha Handelman
Bobby- Phillip Veins
Victor- Adam Rutt
Young Boy- Brennan Smith
Rosie- Hayley LaPoint
Lulu (Sally u/s)- Natalie Miller
Frenchie- Kerrin Wilmarth
Texas- Kerrin Jeromin
Fritzy- Katie Dorben
Helga- Marie Beland
German Sailors-Phillip Viens
Sasha Handelman
Adam Rutt
Nazi Guards- Phillip Viens
Adam Rutt
Assistant Officer/ Taxi Man- Sasha Handelman
Emcee u/s- Phillip Viens
The Band : Piano/Conductor- Nancy Hartswick, Percussion- Eileen Rossetti, Trumpet- Jennifer Hartswick, Trombone- Brian Huling, Alto Saxophone- Sarah Kozak

Hornets split with Seawolves, lose more games due to weather

By ANDREW R. KOCH
CRITIC STAFF

What was expected to be another busy weekend for the Hornets baseball team turned out quite differently than expected this past weekend.

The team played only two games out of a scheduled five. The Hornets split a doubleheader on Saturday against the Southern Maine Community College Seawolves, but were then forced to watch as rain washed out their scheduled doubleheader on Sunday against Briarcliffe College, as well as their nine-inning game on Monday at Vermont Tech. Overall this season, the Hornets have had eight games either canceled or rescheduled due to inclement weather. The team's first three home games this year had to be either rescheduled or canceled because of snow on the field.

"It's frustrating because you work hard in practice to prepare for a game, you're ready to go, and then it gets canceled," said sophomore pitcher Matt Picard. "We won't make up six of those games."

"The fact of the matter is that we lose some games that can't be made up," said Athletic Director Chris Ummer. "For baseball, we lost three days of games. That's six games, because everything's a doubleheader."

Baseball isn't the only spring sport to suffer from the bad weather this year. The softball team has lost 12 games to inclement weather and poor field conditions, and the tennis team won't have a home match at all this year.

"We have to work games into our opponents' schedules. Most of the schools we play are in conferences. The commitment to their conference schedule takes priority over their commitment to Lyndon," Ummer said. He added that the result is busy stretches like what the baseball team just went through to finish April.

"When we reschedule make-ups, the result is consecutive days of doubleheaders. The baseball team played 10 games in five days," Ummer said. "It takes a toll on our students both academically and athletically, and we don't like to see it happen."

In the first game against the Seawolves, the Hornets fell behind early. Nick Rivers started the game on the mound for the Hornets. He gave up two runs in the first inning and three more in the second. Rivers gave up two more runs in the fourth inning before giving way to Jordan Royer. Rivers was tagged for the loss, giving up seven runs in three-plus innings. Royer would give up only one more run over the next four innings. Royer was the lone offensive star for the Hornets, going two for three with a double. The Hornets lost 8-0, failing to take advantage of several chances with runners in scoring position.

In the second game, freshman Andrew Gandin returned to the mound after being sidelined for the last month with a shoulder injury. He had a rough start, giving up a two-run homer in the first inning, but went on to pitch well after that, giving up only one more run. Gandin would get the complete game win, giving up three runs. Leadoff hitter Rob Malloy had two hits, as did Adam Pelletier and senior Captains Adrian Guyer and Jesse Hersey. Hersey, who was playing in right field (an unusual position for him), had the big hit of the day, a two-run triple in the sixth. The Hornets went on to earn the doubleheader split with a 9-3 win over the Seawolves.

Dogs on campus debated

By KEITH WHITCOMB JR.
MANAGING EDITOR

An e-debate began on Wednesday about dogs being allowed on campus.

It began when Dean of Administration Wayne Hamilton, sent out an e-mail to the campus reminding them that "...pets, other than personal assistance animals are prohibited from the campus."

Hamilton's e-mail said that some people on campus may have phobias and allergies "that can make encounters with animals a very unpleasant experience." He also noted that noise and animal waste could be problems as well.

Members of the faculty responded to Hamilton's e-mail. Janet Bennion, associate professor of Sociology and Anthropology wondered if the "no dogs rule" was set in stone. "I recall many happy days at my alma mater with my dog, catching Frisbees on the quad with other students," Bennion wrote in her e-mail. "In light of recent events, it seems humans are more dangerous to us on campus than are dogs. I was delighted to see a puppy today that made me feel safe, at peace, and normal...we need more of that atmosphere around here."

Bennion had some suggestions for the potential problems caused by dogs. "Surely poop is an issue, which could be remedied with a pick-up-your-dog's-poop policy.:

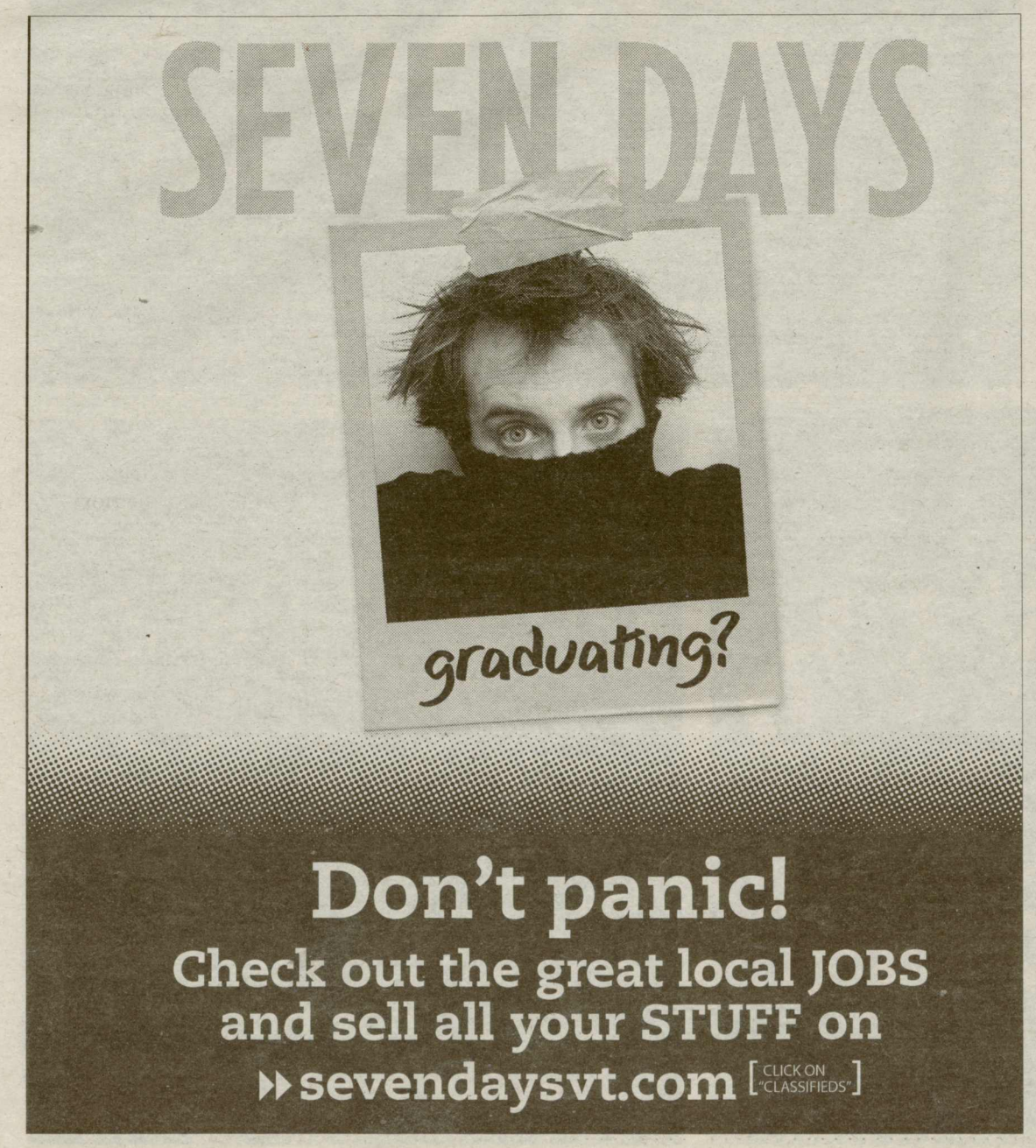
"I think we should have Pet Day every semester! That could be a compromise," Philip Parisi, instructor of Interactive Digital Media, wrote in a responding e-mail.

Elizabeth Norris, assistant professor of Fine and Performing Arts, wrote back with the story of Otis, her dog, which she sometimes brings to campus. "I remember the day this past February that a female student saw Otis and began petting him. Little by little she told him the story of her horrible day and he listened. She had a flat on the way in to school, was late for her TVS class, and her day had gone downhill from there. After Otis gave her lots of love, she left with a bit of a spring in her step."

Other faculty also had stories of dogs being useful for therapy and taking the edge off the day. Allison Lathrop, associate professor of Natural Science and Geology, also brings her dog around sometimes with positive results. "I found last year that my dog provided a unique and essential way to connect with troubled students, and in at least one case, my dog was probably the only thing that kept one student coming to class."

"I wish there were a way to have a dog- (or other pet-) safe area on campus where those connections can continue to benefit our community without endangering people who must steer clear," Lathrop wrote in her e-mail.

Debra Bailin, director of Student Academic Development, concurred. "I strongly agree, and have been feeling very guilty for not publicly saying so earlier. Mary Sue Kelly, the long-time counselor for the college, kept a therapy dog in the current Alumni house when her office was there, and as Beth and Alison have noted, for many students that dog enabled Mary Sue to make connections that she wouldn't otherwise have been able to make."



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THE CRITIC

Serving the student voice of Lyndon State College

Lyndonville, Vermont | Friday, September 21, 2007 | Volume 54, Number 1

Read Jordan Royer's sex advice column, Holy Sheet on pg. 3

Smoking to be banned from campus in Jan.

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.
Critic Editor

Smokers won't be allowed to light up on the LSC campus as of January 1.

The only places smoking will be permitted is in the parking lots. The new policy was created by members of the LSC Health and Safety Committee and was approved by LSC President, Carol Moore.

Donna Dalton, dean of Academic and Student Affairs, did not sit on the Health and Safety Committee but was able to comment on the issue. The idea behind limiting smoking to the parking lots is to cut down on second hand smoke and litter caused by cigarette butts, Dalton said.

Smokers on campus are not thrilled about the new policy. "It won't change anything," Annie Schultz, a graduate student said. "What good would it do?"

"You don't get much second hand smoke if you don't hang out with smokers," a student smoker who asked not to be identified, said.

"There's going to be an uprising," Joey Stewart, a senior, said. "There are a lot of people who smoke on campus."

The question is: will students comply with the ban?

"During the winter, if they kick us out to the parking lots, with all the cold and snow, we're not going to make that trek," Sara Marquette, a sophomore, said.

Smokers who work at the college are also in a fix. "It think it's hard on the employees," Tom Newman, an Aramark employee said. "We're given five minutes for a break; we're not anywhere near a parking lot."

Aside from the change in location as to where smokers can smoke , little else is different in regards to how the policy is enforced.

"It will be as effective as the people who smoke want it to be," George Hacking, director of Public Safety said. Public Safety does not have the personnel to create a smoking patrol. If they spot people violating the ban while performing their other duties, they will then take action.

"I don't think they really can enforce it. We're out smoking for five minutes at the most," Marquette said.

Another question is: will smokers who don't like the policy, complain? "If I knew how, I would," Newman said.

"I may complain a lot, but I won't fill out a form or anything," Marquette said.

"If they wanted to complain, they could register their complaint with someone on the Health and Safety Committee," Dalton said. Registering a complaint is as easy as sending an e-mail.

Those sitting on the committee for this semester are: Tom Archer (the committee chair), Wayne Hamilton, George Hacking, Sue Henry, Jonathan Davis, Denise Doyon, Dan Martin, Brenda Sweet, Harry Swett, Theresa Conant, Timothy Sturm, Meri Stiles, and Kathryn Mozer

As to what function the smoking gazebo near the Rogers Residence Hall will serve, is now in question. "I think it's a waste of money and resources," Casey Morrison, a non-smoker, said. "It's a lack of foresight."

Being a non-smoker, Morrison wasn't too upset over the change in smoking policy. "I like clean lungs," Morrison said, laughing.

Keith Whitcomb Jr. Editor

Amanda Wozniak, a senior, enjoys a cigarette in the gazeebo out in front of the Theodore Newton Vail Center. Next semester, she'll have to travel the extra few feet and smoke in the parking lot if she wants her nicotine fix.

Student government suffers electile disfunction

By Tabitha Fitzgerald
Managing Editor

As it stands, the Student Government Association (SGA) no longer exists on the LSC campus.

Due to the lack of interest, not enough petitions for positions, and failure to hold elections last spring, there are currently no members on the Executive Board or the Senate branch of the SGA, Jonathon Davis, Director of Student Life and one of the SGA advisers said.

Filling in for the SGA are its three advisers; Davis, Brandon Buckley, and Kate Murphy.

Problems for the SGA began last spring. At the beginning of the spring semester of '07 elections were held due to the resignation of the Vice President and later, the President.

In the end, Hayley LaPoint was voted in as Vice President and Adam Tracy became the President. The positions voted on in the spring only lasted until the end of the semester.

Because of the lack of interest, the SGA failed to hold its normal April elections. The failure to hold elections left the SGA executive board and the Senate nonexistent at the start of the current semester, Davis said.

One of the biggest problems the SGA is having is recruitment and generating enough interest among the student body, Davis said.

"I think, in a way, people don't know what SGA is," LaPoint said. This was a problem LaPoint tried to address last year during Spring Day by publicizing the club.

The lack of interest has also continued into this semester. Petitions for positions have been slow in coming, causing the petition deadline to be moved back. The latest deadline was Monday, September 17. At that point there were only six petitions. Five of those were for Senate and one was for an executive position, Davis said.

As of now the only branch of the SGA functioning is the Student House of Representatives. House can always run because it is made up of a representative from each club. Every club must have at least one representative who regularly attends meetings, lest their club lose its budget.

The current solution that is being contemplated by House and the advisers is consolidating House and Senate. LaPoint said that she brought up the subject of consolidation at the first House meeting of the Fall 07 semester. This plan would assure a Senate every year and leave only executive positions to be voted on.

This would guarantee the student body having a voice even though the members hadn't been voted in, Davis said. The biggest drawback to the consolidation is the fact that it would eliminate the check and balance system in place now.

LaPoint said that she believed that the consolidation would work because "the House always does a really good job with what students want. After all, they are students too." She also said that last semester, anything passed by House also passed through Senate without a problem. Also the president will still hold veto power.

As of Wednesday night's house meeting it was decided to give elections one more push. A task force was formed to help bring more interest and candidates into the elections. This task force is made up of Mattia Marrow, Myles Hacking, Hayley LaPoint and Amber Donato. If this does not work the idea is to revamp SGA altogether.

"I think it is a rather exciting time because SGA could go in a vastly new direction, if that is what the students want," Davis said.

LaPoint agreed that something needs to be done to reform SGA. The current constitution can not be upheld because there are not enough members in SGA. The necessary jobs, such as club budgeting, are being conducted by the club's advisers.

"Having a club that is run by its advisers is never good. But right now it is needed," LaPoint said.

LaPoint said, "it is really unfortunate that there isn't more interest in it [SGA]."

SGA is a necessary function for the student body, but as things stand Davis said "it may be weeks before there is a permanent SGA."

WWLR The Impulse under new managment

By Thomas Bork
Photo Editor

WWLR or 91.5 The Impulse, the college's radio station, has gone through a large change in management. Ashley Mullen, the new general manager, plans to remake the radio station so that it can, "be seen as a positive influence," Mullen said at the first club meeting last Thursday.

The little wing off of the theater became packed with people for the first meeting of WWLR. Mullen hushed the boisterous crowed and started the meeting by saying, "I am not Jeremy Lacey this, won't take forever." When the chuckling of the crowed stopped some bad news came for the soon-to-be members.

The station's computer broke over the summer and they need to get a new sound card for it before they can use it again.

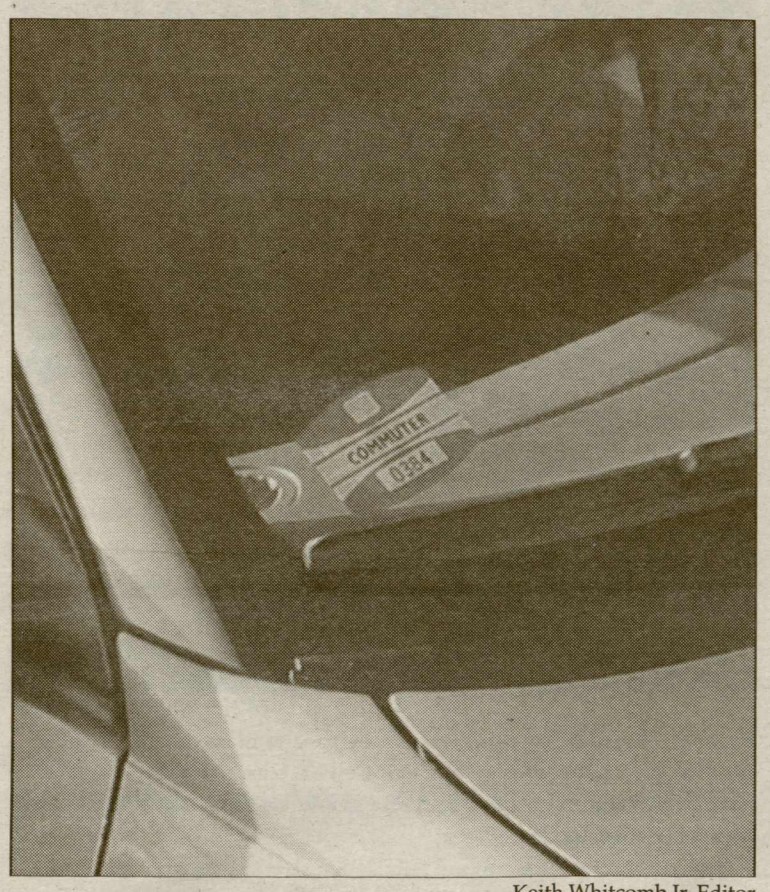
They also had difficulty keeping in touch with the promotion companies as well as the record labels during the change in management which took place over the summer. Some old members didn't know who was going to be in management until they got back this semester. Due to this they are trying to pull together all their members and make the show go on, hoping the new members will help bolster the station and bring variety.

Mullen said that she wanted to bring more diversity and new music to the station and its listeners and right now the "vault," where they keep their licensed music, is not enough.

"It wasn't a college station," Mullen said referring to WWLR's previous years. Due to the lack of communication with the record labels, Nick Phelan the Music Director is trying to reestablish connections to get more licensed music for the vault. Mullen frowned on the idea of DJs bringing in their own music because, legally, they aren't supposed to play it. Last semester had a "Don't ask don't tell policy" Mullen said. This year she said she wants to "play by the rules."

With their hope to get upwards of $16,000 this year in underwriting and not having to spend it on a new radio transmitter like they did last year, they want to make WWLR a part of the community. Bumper stickers and T-shirts are some of the ideas they are tossing around now. They also dream of hosting a concert for the college.

As the meeting drew to a close the people started lining up to get their time slots. Looking at the crowd of people lining up to get their air time, Tim Lavigne, the Country music director, said it's going to be another "fun experience."



Keith Whitcomb Jr. Editor

The new LSC commuter paking sticker is positioned properly in the windshield of this vehicle on the lower passenger side corner.

Stick it and you might get a ticket

By Ben Hollbrook
Special to the Critic

Ticketed! That's what many Lyndon State College students who drive could have been if the school had not change the location of the parking permits this year.

Lyndon State College's previous parking permit policy stated that the sticker should be placed in the lower left hand corner of the windshield. This policy worked until this past summer when an LSC student contacted Public Safety saying that a police officer had told her that it was illegal to have anything besides the vehicle registration sticker on the lower left hand corner of the windshield.

Mike Lang, an LSC sophomore, said of the situation that, "It's pretty funny."

George Hacking, director of Public Safety, looked into the matter and found that it was illegal to have a sticker on that part of the windshield, which prompted him to send out an e-mail telling all students who have cars on campus to put the parking sticker in the lower right corner of the windshield.

The only reason the sticker violation was noticed was that the Vermont police were doing a Click It or Ticket campaign, so when they pulled over the car of an LSC student, whose name has not been released, they noticed the parking permit sticker, Hacking said.

"I think that it was kind of ridiculous that it was against the law because Vermont has too many restrictions on vehicles, but it's also the school's responsibility to look into these matters and they should know the laws," Phil Viens, a sophomore television studies major said.

Having a sticker in the wrong place on the windshield is considered a primary offense and as such the police can pull over a car without needing another reason. If the parking sticker goof hadn't been caught this summer, then Public Safety most likely would not have noticed.

Even if students had been pulled over in large numbers during the school year due to having their parking permits in the wrong place, the school would not be responsible because the stickers are removable.

Academic Support Center Moves

By Gwen Cook
Special to the Critic

The staff of the Academic Support Center said that the move from Vail to the Library and Academic Center will be a very positive thing for the students.

ASC's own Judy Little said, "We are hoping that with the staff next to the library that students will utilize both places." The new room is adjacent to the library and right across the hall from the 24-hour computer lab giving the students an even better research and learning potential.

A few of the changes that were made are a larger writing center, larger testing rooms, as well as a more identifiable reception area. The room is better laid out with more room for walking or for more chairs depending on how full the room is at any given moment.

Dean of Institutional Advancement Bob Whittaker said, "Due to space and logistic considerations, the old Academic Support Center was no longer capable of serving the more than 500 students that visit the Center annually, up from approximately 350 students just five years ago."

It now resides adjacent to the library in a much more roomy and convenient area.

The office hours are from 7:30 a.m. -6:00 p.m. from Monday-Friday, and Sunday 9-11 p.m. There is also a possibility for Saturday hours later in the semester.

Child Care Internship Possibilities

By Gillian Moore
Special to the Critic

For those involved in early education or human services, an internship might be right around the corner - literally.

The Lyndon Children's Center, a non-profit, parent-run organization located on College Road, is a place where students can complete their internships or work studies, and get real life experience working with children.

"Students from Lyndon Institute who are involved with the Human Services Department have completed internships here as well, working with the children, bringing up projects, and so on." Lori Phillips, the director of the organization, said.

She added that early education students have done observations at the daycare for certain classes and projects.

However, students aren't the only ones who can take advantage of this center. Open from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., the Children's Center offers daycare for two and a half year-olds to six year olds, Monday through Friday. The center is equipped for 15 children per day, at the prices of $25 per full day and $15 per half day.

On top of all this, the center offers preschool in the mornings during the school year. Also, in the summer months they offer childcare for those between the ages of six and 12 at another base.

They are accredited with NAEYC, the National Association for the Education of Young Children, and also with STARS, the Step Ahead Recognition System.

Calkins named USCAA Player of the Week

Press Release

Lyndsay Calkins, a senior exercise science and accounting major, has been named the Women's Cross Country Player of the Week by the USCAA. Calkins, a resident of Danville Vt., who finished first at the USCAA National Championships in 2006, was second at the Middlebury Panther Invitational on Saturday, finishing the 5K race in 19:11. In LSC's first meet of the year, Calkins finished first, posting a time of 17:18 over the 4K course.

Another fall semester, another start of the school year story

By Joshua James Gervais
Online Editor

After three years at LSC, I've noted some events that seem to occur over every summer. These little bits of unpleasantness come around with the start of every academic year reminding us all that summer is truly over.

Every summer a little more of the school gets painted puffball white, a yellowish shade of white that looks like old paint even while its still fresh. This summer most of the student center got repainted puffball, except the sections of wall behind the raised section that's sometimes used for events. It seems like a small thing, but the color makes everything look dingy and old.

The prices at the Hornet's Nest goes up every year, which makes a certain amount of sense. The sorts of goods sold at there tend to get more expensive as time goes by, and the start of the academic year is a logical time to change prices. I've always had a sneaking suspicion that the rate in which the prices at the Hornet's Nest go up are a little bit ahead of what's necessary to keep up with economic trends. There are ways to bypass the prices at the Hornet's Nest. The vending machines found around the campus provide some items at better prices but aren't very reliable. Cheaper items can be found off campus, but that's sort of inconvenient.

Every year the school gets a new design for its website, which is enviably less intuitive and harder to use than the one before it. The same content gets reshuffled into a new order, and everyone has to figure out where to find the parts of the website they use. There's nothing wrong with changing things, but a complete redesign isn't necessary.

Every summer we seem to lose at least one good member of the staff or faculty. Last year Dorian McGowan, former professor of Fine Arts, retired over the summer, and the year before that Robert Dixon, former professor of social science, retired. This year we lost Leo Sevigny, former associate dean for student affairs, and Jim Gallagher, director of the physical plant. All of these people made their significant contributions to the school as a whole and will be missed.

We also lose fellow students who have graduated, transferred, or aren't returning for less pleasant reasons. The list of former students who have made this school a better place would be far too long to begin to commit to paper. Most returning students know at least one person who isn't here this semester that that they wish were.

There's always a new group of students each fall. This is one of few positives to the new year. The freshman classes do seem to get bigger every year, and all those new faces can be a little overwhelming to some people. Nevertheless, there's a great deal of potential in these new students as friends, community members, and students. Those possibilities may just make up for everything we've lost over the summer.

Holy Sheet

By Jordan Royer

College is great. I mean, sure you have to go to class time and again, but the parent free environment filled with beer drinking and sex just can't be beat. I will try to steer clear of waste cases, in other words, stories of my extreme drunkenness, but we are about to venture into the world of pillow talk.

Surely I am not the most qualified to talk sex, but I do know enough to at least keep you entertained. I mean, I've been touching myself for as long as I can remember so I know a thing or two about how my tools work.

Whether you are a sex-aholic or a virgin, one thing is for certain, you have thought about sex. And when I say sex, I mean it all, oral, vaginal, anal and the always "handy," masturbation.

Before I get "balls deep" into this article, I would like to first off mention safety. Speed bumps are for parking lots, not for your genitals, so wrap it up. "But it feels better without a condom." I agree, but you won't be feeling good when you've itched your junk raw or the doc tells you that you have HIV. Don't be a fool, wrap your tool!

Safety is not only important because of STI's, but you are a college student and if you are anything like me that means you aren't ready for kids. I don't know about you, but I like my keg parties and late nights at the Packer way too much right now to trade it in for a kid.

College is a time for experimenting and I don't mean in the science lab. Well, unless you sneak in for an after hours session with your partner. Hmmm, that would be thrilling. When I say experimenting, I don't mean, run around with an ungodly amount of partners, well, unless that's the experiment you are conducting. I know for me, experimenting just means not being so closed minded. There are a lot of people on this campus, find someone that makes you happy.

Talk is the answer to everything. I will end this week with a little tip. Great sex stems from quality communication. Ask your partner what they like or dislike-DON'T think you are the God of sex because eventually you will have a less than stellar performance between the sheets and nothing is more embarrassing than that.

Get out there and be somebody, but don't forget-Be Safe!

Position of the week:
The reverse cowgirl

What do you think of Blackboard and the portal?

"At some point, like when doing the school is doing upgrades, I can't find the portal or my e-mail because everything has been changed. And most of the time they never tell you they are changing things. But once you get on the site it is nice to be able to follow along with a professor on Blackboard, especially if you have a disability or can't keep up with a professor. It is nice to be able to follow along at your own pace."

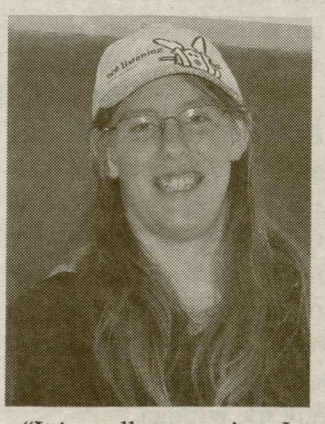
Jaci Del Viscovo, Senior.

"Teachers have to be in on discussions as much as students, but I don't find that happens often. The problem is there is no feedback most of the time. Students should have specific deadlines. The lack of communication online, on Blackboard really sucks. Having taught online I know it can work"

Donna, Junior

"I think it's dumb. It's crappy, due to having to post your work online It is mandatory in some classes and some people don't like their work seen. And it might be a better setup if it could be accessed after midnight. Both the Webservices and Blackboard can't be accessed off campus after midnight...It might work if teachers used it but most don't."

James Drohan, Sophmore



"It is really annoying. I think it is useless. E-mail is important but so much stuff on the portal could be on the general site or isn't needed. I wish they would change it because it takes so long to load using dialup. I never use blackboard. I only check it if a teacher warns me there will be something on there. I only have been on once this semester because I couldn't find my email. That was because they had changed the website again."

Kathy Harrington, senior.

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China Moon Buffet

Restaurant Review

Thomas Borck, Photo Editor

New to Lyndonville China Moon Beffet enjoys early success

By Norman Johnson

After what seemed like forever, the Chinese buffet, China Moon finally opened their doors at 626 Broad St. in Lyndonville. The maroon awnings facing the road said, "All you Can Eat," and "All you can Taste."

China Moon's menu advertised "Over 100 rotating items daily."

When I visited a week ago, the main serving table featured Chinese entrees like noodle dishes, beef and peppers, sweet sour pork, a very good General Tso's chicken, boneless ribs, green beans in garlic sauce, mixed stir-fried vegetables, shrimp with garlic sauce and more.

There were three soups, dim sum, a strange seafood soufflé dish with what looked like fake crabmeat and two oddball items like wrapped hot dogs (Pigs in a Blanket) and what looked suspiciously like sugar-coated doughnut holes. Pork fried rice and a uncharacteristic long-grained white rice rounded things out.

There was a table devoted to western food: snow crab legs, sliced pork loin, baron of beef (you have to carve it yourself and the carving knife was dull as a shovel). Several chafing dishes offered "Italian Chicken," roast turkey, salmon and a dish cryptically labeled White Ing Fish.

A third table held green salads, shrimp cocktail, pasta salad and Chinese green Jell-0. A desert bar had four ice creams, carrot cake, cookies and two puddings.

The only distractions were the two-ton chandelier dominating the atrium and a single speaker droning out something like George Winston and Enya in Chinese. I waited two weeks for the crowds to die down before my first visit. A month after opening, they were still very busy, especially weekends. If you don't like standing in line, or hunting a parking space, go after 8:00 p.m. during the week.

Prices are normal for a buffet, if not a little complicated. Lunch buffet costs $5.50 Monday through Saturday, 11:00a.m.-3:30p.m. Lunch buffet for kids 4-10 years old costs $3.35.

Dinner runs from 4:30-9:00p.m. on Monday through Thursday and costs $9.95, kids 4-10 eat for $5.25. Friday through Saturday dinner runs from 4:30-10:00p.m. and costs $10.95, kids 4-10 cost $5.95. Sunday, all day, it costs $9.95 for adults and $5.25 for kids 4-10. Kids under 4 years old eat free at any time. If you don't want to eat in, you can carry lunch out at $3.99 per pound Monday through Saturday and $4.99 per pound at dinner on. Got it?

So what's the verdict? Get down there and eat! At least for now, the staff is pleasant, the food is well-prepared and there's plenty of it, but one never knows what happens after the honeymoon period is over.

FILM REVIEW: Foster's role only 'Brave One' in lacking film

By Eric Solomon
Daily Mississippian (U. Mississippi)(U-WIRE)

How far would you go to find love? And what would you do if that love was stolen from you? How many wrongs would make it right?

The new film "The Brave One" from director Neil Jordan ("The Crying Game," "Breakfast on Pluto") and star Jodie Foster ("Panic Room," "The Silence of the Lambs") asks these very questions and many, many more.

The film primarily concerns the inability to grieve with the hunger for revenge; however, the film also makes strong and perhaps controversial statements on issues ranging from violence, gun control and the death penalty to justice and the incompetency of the United States' legal system.

Foster stars as Erica Bain, a popular radio host on a hit New York station. The film opens as we listen to her program, "Streetwalker." Bain talks on and on about the splendid architecture and beauty of her city, but even underneath this apparent compliment lies a slight willingness to admit to the city's decay.

Wrapping up her program, Bain leaves to go make final decisions concerning her wedding invitations. In these scenes, we are introduced to Bain's fiance, David Kirmani (Naveen Andrews of "Lost").

As the day comes to a close, the couple meets up at their apartment to take their dog for an evening walk in Central Park. This is when we begin to see the full force of Jordan's film.

Three men begin to harass the couple over their dog. A fight ensues, and the attackers film the fight.

The fight soon proves more violent and bloody than originally expected. This random act of violence early on in the film changes the tone and, although uncomfortable, makes the film more intriguing. In short, Kirmani, the fiance, is beaten to death, and Bain is unconscious for three weeks.

When Bain awakes she is devastated to discover what has happened, and she refuses to accept it. After leaving the hospital, Bain lives in fear. She soaks in it. She cannot leave her house for weeks, but when she finally does, she is determined to right the wrongs.

"The Brave One" raises some interesting questions about justice. If the legal system in effect does nothing to solve your case, should you take matters in your own hands? Are violence and vengeance the answer when love is taken away and only emptiness remains? Eye for an eye, tooth for a tooth?

Yet, what is even more interesting is the psychological component of Foster's performance. This vigilante violence is her grief. She says at one point that her fiance's death left a hole, and this is the way she fills that hole. She wants to go on living, and the only way for her to do that is through killing.

The film tries to say a lot about justice, violence and vigilantism, but the film only truly succeeds in analyzing the grief of a broken woman who honestly does what she thinks is right.

"The Brave One" is a beautiful meditation on grief solely due to the utterly convincing performance of Jodie Foster as the protagonist. Foster has made a career of late in playing hard-edged women who will stop at nothing to do what they deem right.

As Erica Bain, Foster once again proves she can both channel her deepest emotions and kick major ass. Foster operates much of the film in a cold, steely glare and deep, manly voice. She even looks like a man for most of the film's latter half.

However, she is best when tapping into deep emotional reserves that allow the audience to see the psychological turmoil lurking beneath the surface of the character's fragile facade. The performance is solid, but it lacks what one might call awards magnetism.

The film lacks cohesiveness and plausible plot occurrences with a problematic ending, but if one overlooks these obstacles,

"The Brave One" is an interesting piece that hopefully will raise some eyebrows and start a much needed debate in this country over the nature of violence and the culpability of a person abandoned by the legal system.

Overall, the morals in the film are ambiguous and problematic but endlessly fascinating.

In the end Erica Bain says, "There is no going back. This person, this stranger is all you are now."

To escape grief, sometimes we become a stranger even to ourselves. To escape fear, we often must face it with a newfound bravery. To make it right, perhaps, we must commit a few wrongs. Morally ambiguous? Controversial? You bet.

Brave or cowardly? You decide.

Basic English filled to capacity

Photo by Michael Dente

LSC welcomes a multitude of new faces to its collage campus. With even more students than last year campus is overflowing. Hats off to the largest freshmen class in LSC history.

By Catherine Story

Things are a little cramped on campus this fall.

As of September 7 there were 41 more students in the freshman class than last year. With dorm residents overflowing into off-campus apartments and a record number of students in LSC's lowest level math and English classes, there is talk among staff that perhaps not everyone belongs at LSC.

Andrea Luna, coordinator of college composition, who oversees writing courses required by freshman, says there are more students in the college's lowest level English course, ENG 0030 Basic Reading and Writing, than in previous years.

In 2006 there were four Basic reading and Writing classes. This year there are six. Luna says this might be because the essay was administered online.

"It may have been that the students who took the placement exam did not lack the skills, they simply blew it off." She says this could be an early warning that perhaps students who blew off the online exam would be likely to disregard homework

"A lot of students who don't pass ENG 1051 don't pass it because they don't do the work," Luna said. Students are not lacking in ability but in dedication. Although she also said that "a lot of our students asked for basic."

Some professors believe that this is more then just a matter of administering the placement test improperly. "It is relatively new that everyone is expected to go to college in our culture." Luna said.

Professor of education Barry Hertz, shows passion about this oversized freshman class "I think it is unethical to take some of the people we are taking." Hertz said. He disagrees with the administration's method of getting more students into the school this semester.

Students seem to feel that the weight and procedure of the exam were not explained well. Sam Aldrich says she felt like a fool while taking the math portion of the placement exam because other students were finishing before her. She was not informed that the test would continue through more advanced mathematics each time she passed a section

Heather Whitaker, a transfer student, took the English placement test that asked students to tell the college which English class they belong in and why. The test gives only the option of taking the three freshmen level English courses. She says that she was unsure what the relevance of the test was because of her previous college credits. She would have chosen differently had she realized that her answer, ENG 1051 College Writing, would be the English class she was placed in even though she had already taken equivalent classes.

. With 21 percent more applications than in 2006 the school is gaining popularity. The growth is 8 percent more students than in the previous year. The additional 41 students LSC has gained are just enough to fill the two Basic English courses that were added this year. With 55 students in both math and English classes under the college level the question some faculty are raising is: Do all the students that were accepted to Lyndon State this semester belong in college?

U. Utah study finds antioxidants can spur heart disease

By: Lana Groves
Daily Utah Chronicle (U. Utah)(U-WIRE)

For years, people have believed that antioxidants are important to combating heart disease, but a new study performed by University of Utah researchers discovered that increased levels of a specific antioxidant can actually encourage the disease.

"Our study was performed to determine the cause of an inherited form of heart disease — we found that it led to an abnormal increase of an antioxidant called glutathione," said Ivor Benjamin, a U professor in cardiology and the study's principal author.

Antioxidants generally defend against oxidative stress that causes heart disease by "scavenging" for radicals and destroying the toxicity of proteins that weren't synthesized correctly.

By the time a person with the gene for inherited heart disease is 30 years old, the antioxidants intended to fight against radicals are too excessive and make the heart's condition worse.

"This was very unusual to find; most current research in this area has established that there should be much lower levels of antioxidants due to increased oxidative stress with heart disease," Benjamin said.

The U researchers took mice with the inherited gene for heart disease and studied their progress and development with the disease.

"Our experiment to lower the antioxidant level in mice helped in an enormous way," Benjamin said.

Namakkal Rajasekaran, a research associate in cardiology at the U and co-author of the study, said that the mice didn't develop symptoms of heart disease for six months.

"The increased amounts of the antioxidant glutathione significantly altered the mouse's state of health after six months," he said.

The study shows that in preventing heart disease, the focus should not be on reducing oxidative stress alone, but also on reductive stress caused by an excess of antioxidants.

The researchers are currently doing a follow-up study on diminishing the problems of antioxidants with an antireductant.

"We're in the process of creating something that would lower reductive stress, what you could call an antireductant," Benjamin said.

Rajasekaran says that they hope with more research to be able to make the cells produce less glutathione.

Self-extinguishing cigarettes to reduce residential fires

By Casey Tilton
The Review (U. Delaware)(U-Wire)

(U-WIRE) NEWARK, Del. - Although a recently released study by the National Fire Protection Association shows the number of residence hall fires at national universities increased from 1,800 in 1998 to 3,300 in 2005, such trends are not the case at the university.

Kevin McSweeney, University of Delaware fire protection engineer, said there has been no noticeable increase in the number of dormitory fires in the past few years.

"We have been very fortunate," McSweeney said.

He said the sprinkler and fire alarm systems in residence halls have been effective in cutting down on the number of fires on campus.

McSweeney said most of the fire emergencies on campus are caused by cooking appliances, including ovens and microwaves.

He said he acts as a liaison between the university and fire-prevention services in Newark.

To prevent an entire residence building, such as one of the Christiana Towers, from being evacuated when a fire alarm goes off in a single room, there is a 20-minute delay before the alarm goes off in the entire building, McSweeney said. During this time, a Public Safety officer is sent to check on the status of the room and determine if an evacuation is necessary.

The Coalition for Fire-Safe Cigarettes, coordinated by the NFPA, has been working with Delaware state legislators to require manufacturers to make a new type of cigarette, which self-extinguishes at intervals, according to its Web Site. Delaware passed this law on July 5, and it will become effective on Jan. 1, 2009.

Lorraine Carli, NFPA vice president of communications, said 22 states have passed the fire-safe cigarette law. The coalition's goal to decrease the amount of fires and fire-related deaths has been achieved in New York, which was the first state to require the use of fire-safe cigarettes. They have seen a significant decline in fires since 2004, she said.

"We usually work with local fire services and state fire chief associations who then talk to state governments in order to get these bills passed," Carli said.

She said there is normally an 18-month period between the time the bill is passed and when it goes into effect in order to give the cigarette manufacturers enough time to make and distribute the new product.

Carli said she does not expect Delaware's fire-safe cigarettes to be more expensive than the originals. Cigarette prices have not been affected in the four states where the law has already gone into effect.

McSweeney said this new law might not have a significant impact on the number of fires on campus since cigarettes are typically not responsible for fires in dormitories, due to the fact that they are banned inside buildings.

Junior Tom Gil said he smokes cigarettes and has mixed feelings about the new law.

"It seems like it could be a lot of trouble to keep reigniting the cigarettes, but it wouldn't bother me that much if it really helps cut down on fires," Gil said.

Study says chivalry still alive

By Maria Zinser
The Review (U. Delaware)(U-Wire)

NEWARK, Del. - Traditionally, romance is defined as the act of courting or wooing someone or treating them with ardor or chivalrousness. Some would say the college definition has evolved into something more vulgar.

"Most people see romance as making out and having sex," University of Delaware freshman Selasie Buatsi said.

The definition of romance, or the lack thereof, is the key factor which affected the results of a study done by Catherine Mosher of Duke University and Sharon Danoff-Burg of the University of Albany. The study showed male undergraduate students were more likely than female undergraduate students to choose intimate relationships over careers and education.

The results of the study, published in the journal Gender Issues in July 2007, were calculated after surveying 237 undergraduates, including 80 men and 157 women, about their life goals. The study evaluated the students' readiness to relinquish achievement goals for an intimate relationship. It found 51 percent of women studied and 61.3 percent of men studied would choose to pursue romantic relationships over achievement goals.

According to the study, only 1 percent of the participants were living with a partner, although approximately 50 percent of the females and 40 percent of the males reported having a current dating relationship.

Daniel Kruger, a social and evolutionary psychologist at the University of Michigan, said he found the results a bit hard to evaluate.

"The results are a little ambiguous just because [of] the way the questions were asked," Kruger said.

He said the definition of romance varies and the study never defined what romance or intimate relationships meant.

Freshman Matt Morelli said males may have a different perception of what the term means.

"Guys don't really think with their brain that often," Morelli said.

Senior Kristin Johanson said she was surprised at the study's result because it did not coincide with her image of men. "[Men] just don't seem to care about relationships as much as a woman would, for the most part," Johanson said.

Other students, such as Buatsi, said they were not surprised by the results.

"Men always want to take risks while women just analyze," she said.

Kruger said women often take education more seriously than men do.

"Women are, in general, more future-oriented and more willing to have delayed gratification, so they are taking the tried-and-true path in education," he said. "Men are opting to do something that they think will get them to the top faster, like start a company [or] get into sales so they don't have to spend all that time getting a degree."

Senior Alexandra Villiard highlighted the effects of the stress that is placed on women.

"Girls might feel more pressure on them to get a career and be successful to show that they can," Villiard said.

Johanson gave her own hypothesis for why she thinks men would opt for relationships over personal goals.

"Men seem to always need to be nurtured," she said, "and if Mom's not going to be there anymore for them, they are more likely, if they really feel like they need it, to pick a relationship they know they can stay in to continue being nurtured."

Kruger used his knowledge of evolution to make a prediction about women's motivations.

"What I would like to predict [is this]: Sure, more women will become educated in connection with these careers, but they are going to be less competitive about it," he said. "Women are more oriented to what they are doing and accomplishing rather than saying, 'Oh well, I'm a big shot because of what I do.' "

U. Florida president 'embarrassed' by Taser incident

By Kim Wilmath
Independent Florida Alligator (U. Flordia)(U-Wire)

GAINESVILLE, Fla. - At a news conference Tuesday afternoon, University of Florida President Bernie Machen said he was "embarrassed" by the events at Sen. John Kerry's speech Monday.

Machen said he regretted that civil discourse did not occur at the meeting between Andrew Meyer and University Police Department officers.

Meyer was Tasered and charged with a third-degree felony and a second-degree misdemeanor after officers said he resisted arrest with violence and disturbed the peace.

Machen said the Florida Department of Law Enforcement would conduct a full investigation of the officers' actions.

He said two officers involved, Eddie King and Nicole Mallo, would be immediately suspended with pay pending further investigations.

According to a UPD offense report, King gave the order to Taser Meyer. Mallo Tasered him in the left shoulder, according to both King's and Mallo's accounts.

A panel of faculty and students will review UF's police protocols and suggest ways to improve. UPD will also conduct an internal investigation.

The State Attorney's Office will decide whether to go forward with Meyer's charges.

Machen said he expects fast investigation results.

He said he had seen the video but was not prepared to make any judgment about whether the officers' response was appropriate.

Because Meyer used profanity during a question-and-answer session, his microphone was turned off, said Steven Blank, chairman of Accent, Student Government's speakers bureau. The group hosted Kerry's speech.

When police tried to pull Meyer from the microphone, he began to struggle. Six officers held him to the ground, while one Tasered him.

Machen said safety has been a heightened concern since the Virginia Tech tragedy, and he is still confident in UPD's capabilities.

UPD is the "most professional and sensitive group of officers I have ever worked with," he said.

He said the amount of phone calls and e-mails he's received the past two days "reminds me of hiring a football coach."

Machen said Meyer is allowed back on campus immediately.

Gene Zdziarski, UF dean of students and assistant vice president of student affairs, said students charged with misdemeanors or felonies would be suspended from classes if they were dangerous to other students.

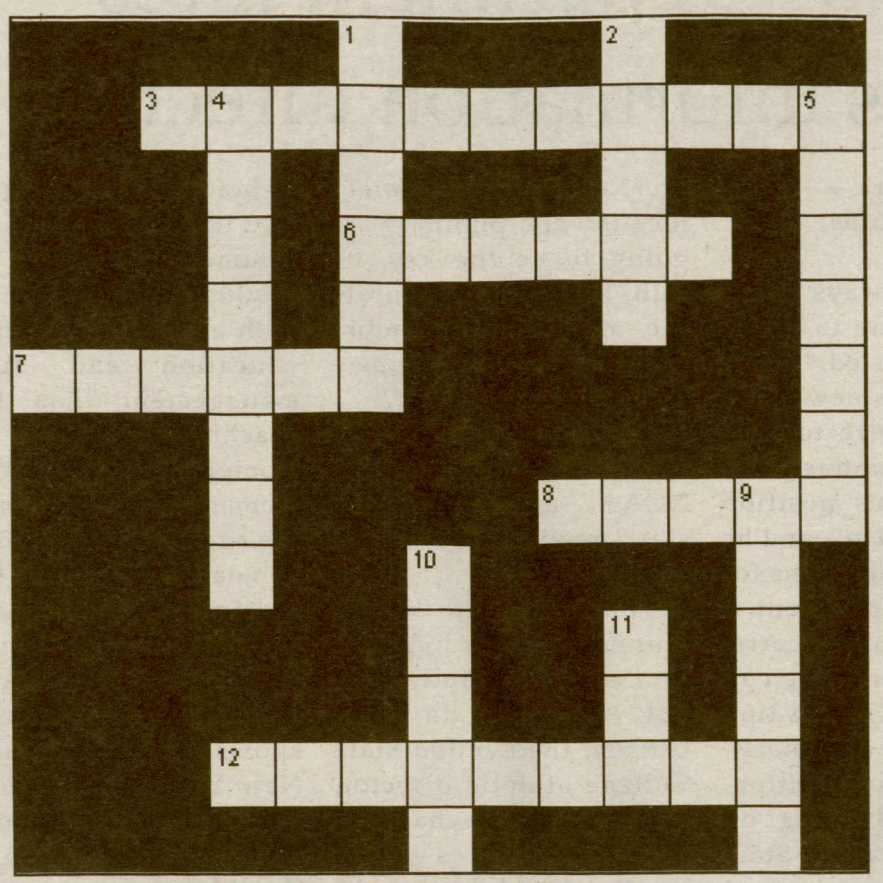
Meyer does not pose a threat, he said.

Downstairs, protesters waited, cooling off in the air conditioning after marching from the Plaza of the Americas to the UPD office and finally to Emerson Alumni Hall.

"The protesters are concerned about the same things we are," Machen said.

Fun Page

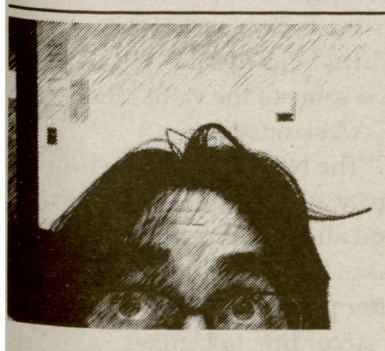
"Bringing you the finest in fun since... uh, today..."



Double Treat: Horoscope and Cross-word

Use the dates and clues to figure out where each sign should go.

1. **(FEB 19-MAR 20)** Don't just flop around today. Go out and accomplish something before you get hooked on a bad habit.
2. **(MAR 21-APR 19)** The skies the limit, my friend. That is, unless of course you can't fly. In that case, you're limited to how high you can jump.
3. **(NOV 22-DEC 21)** What the heck are you? No one seems to know, and apparently, neither do you. Better find out before the 30th.
4. **(JAN 20-FEB 18)** You're life is the beach. You were born with sand in your hair. Your mother hasn't forgotten; you should call her and apologize.
5. **(OCT 23-NOV 21)** Your poisonous disposition will finally get to your friends next month, unless you resolve to change your ways. In that case, you'll make MORE friends.
6. **(JUN 22-JUL 22)** You have touched the lives of many... But not necessarily in a good way. Belay that.
7. **(APR 20-MAY 20)** Try to avoid butting heads with your superiors this week. It is also advisable not to charge into things too quickly.
8. **(AUG 23-SEPT 22)** It's time to expand your horizons. I recommend you go to page three and read Jordon's article. Welcome to the world, my friend.
9. **(MAY 21-JUN 21)** There is an extra large jewel wedged in your ocular socket. That, or you have an annoying twin. In either case, I advise you remove the prolem.
10. **(SEPT 23-OCT 22)** You will receive a letter in the mail post-marked from Cuba. DO NOT RESPOND. It's a trick from the government.
11. **(JUL 23-AUG 22)** Your roar is worse than your bite. OW! Nevermind. Can I have my leg back, please?
12. **(DEC 22-JAN 19)** DO NOT OPEN THE WINDOW! OH LORDY, LEAVE IT CLOSED! More next week.



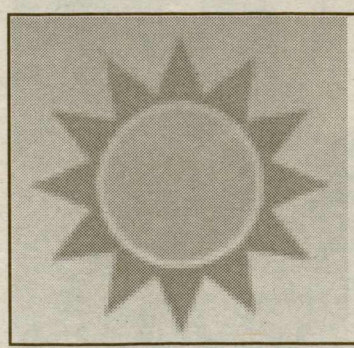
Puzzles generated by the Overlord of Fun, Eric Downing. Enjoy my Crossword, in particular, which is allegedly "Too Hard".

SUDOKU PUZZLE

			9					
2			1	5	3	4	9	
5		7						6
	8			4		9		
	3						6	5
6						7	3	
	2			1	4		8	
3					2			
		1						

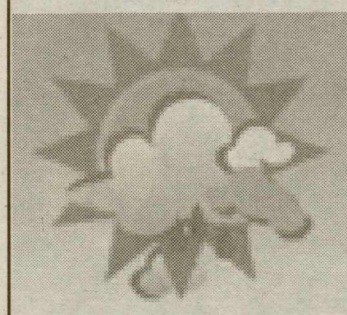
LSC Northeast Kingdom Forecast
Student Meteorologist
Bryan Shaw

High pressure is still dominating the the weather pattern which is allowing for clear and mild weather. A low pressure system is approaching and will bring us some cloudy weather later on Saturday. There is a chance for some light rain late Saturday, but high pressure to the south may push the rain far enough to the north. If any rain, expect less then .10 inches.

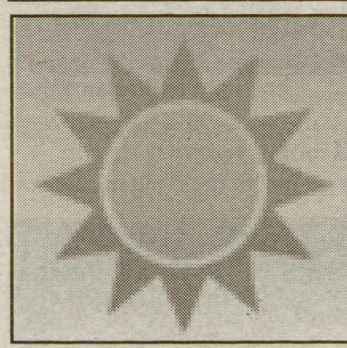


FRIDAY AFTERNOON
Sunny
73-77 F/-F

FRIDAY NIGHT
Partly Cloudy
-F 48-52 F



SATURDAY
Chance of Showers
72-76 F/ 48-52 F



SUNDAY
Sunny
70-74 F/ 42-46 F

Back-to-School Word Find

O	S	T	O	N	E	H	E	N	G	E	U	I	G	L
G	R	W	K	E	X	L	V	N	T	T	V	J	N	D
O	T	U	W	H	E	E	L	O	C	K	T	V	V	U
N	G	M	R	Y	R	R	P	L	I	B	R	A	R	Y
R	N	A	D	D	E	Z	E	N	Q	N	U	A	W	S
D	Y	Y	J	F	S	I	I	G	W	S	Z	J	P	Q
Z	S	W	Z	M	I	N	O	R	I	Y	M	Z	S	F
B	N	E	C	L	D	R	E	V	D	S	D	G	N	W
M	S	T	T	R	E	P	I	H	H	D	T	R	W	L
D	A	T	N	X	N	B	K	T	K	D	E	E	O	X
Q	D	J	U	G	T	Y	R	M	A	U	H	J	R	P
R	N	Z	O	D	E	W	H	N	X	B	X	J	A	R
X	F	X	F	R	Y	J	J	E	X	W	O	H	F	M
C	M	S	E	P	T	E	M	B	E	R	K	L	T	M
X	S	A	T	L	J	M	Y	R	F	Z	L	B	E	K

WORD LIST

Add Drop Register
Major Minor Rita Bole
Sonehenge Wheelock Study
Library September Resident
SAT

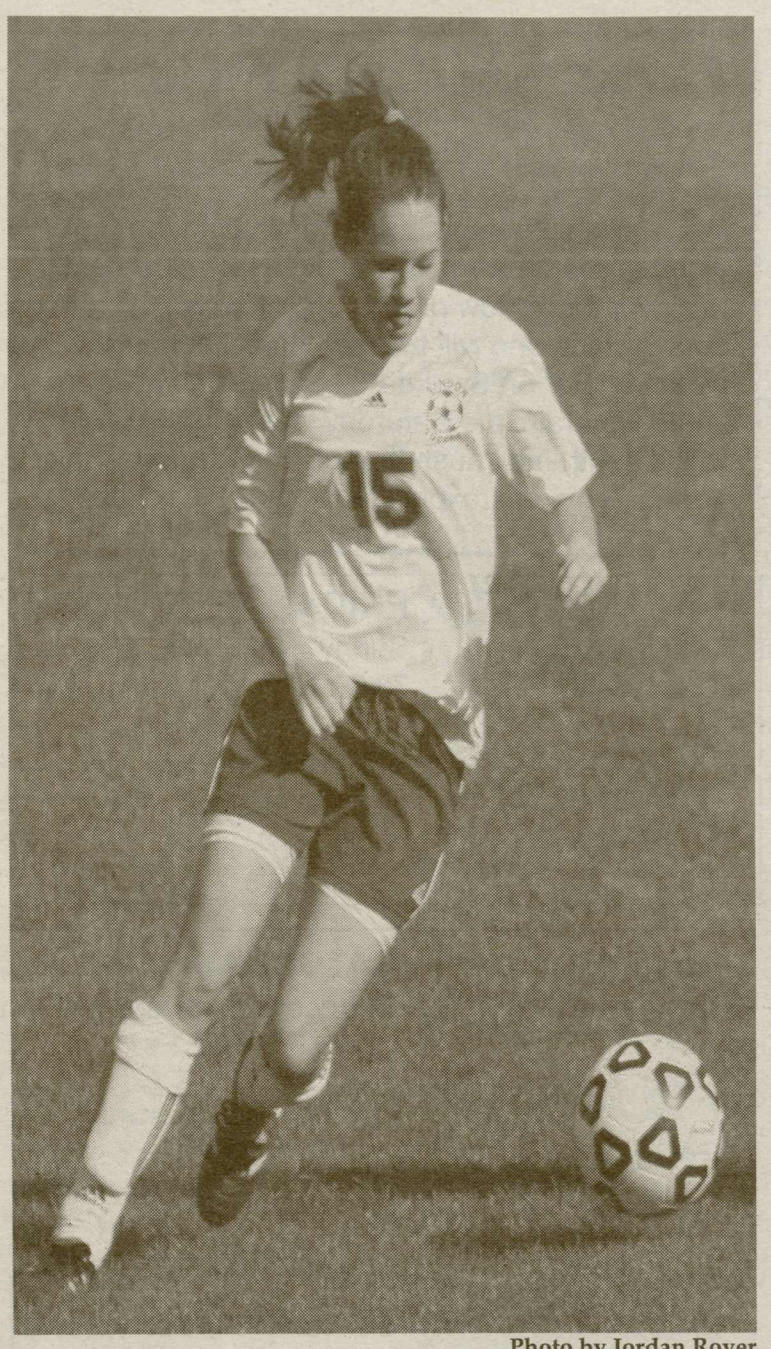


Photo by Jordan Royer

Shauna Buck prepares to cross the ball during yesterday's game against Johnson State. The Lady Hornets lost to the Badgers, 2-0

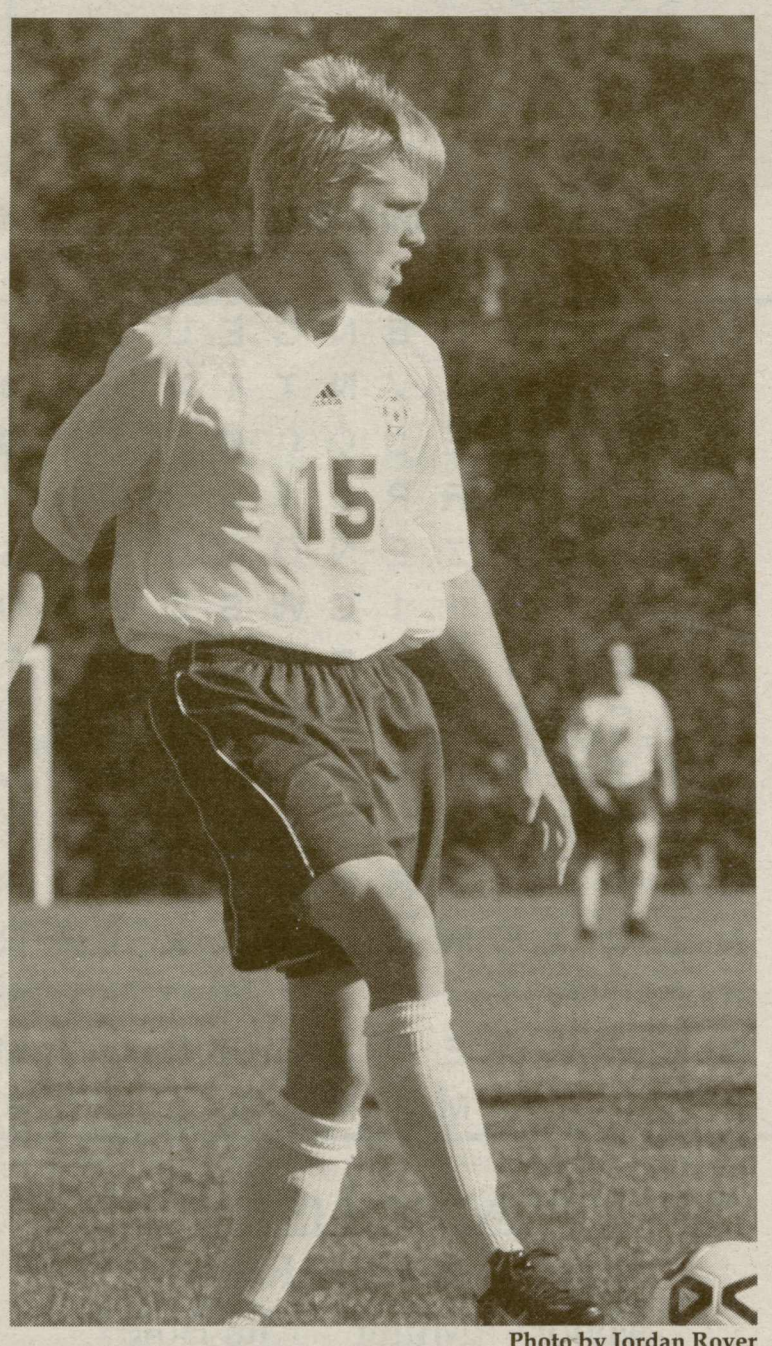


Photo by Jordan Royer

Tyler Bullard dribbles the ball upfield in Tuesday's game against New Hampshire Technical Institute. The Hornets lost, 2-0.

Athletic Department hires sports information director

By Lauren Potter
Special to The Critic

"There's always going to be something to do – I won't get bored," said Lyndon State's new Sport Information Director and returning alumnus, Bill Johnson, on his position here at the college, and he certainly has big plans for the athletic department.

In addition to corresponding with other colleges to share information about rosters and statistics before competition, Johnson is planning on getting the Lyndon State name out in the open and making our athletic department a tempting place to spend time – and, hopefully, money.

"Over all [Lyndon] is a great place to go to school," he said, now his goal is to get that fact out there. But how? Communication and publicity are going to be the key, he said, he wants to saturate the media with Lyndon State's name, "I want people to know about us."

Johnson is "excited about the transition to the NCAA," and is ready to start moving forward in the conference.

He is going to be the "funnel for all information coming in and going out," according to Chris Ummer, the Lyndon State College athletic director, who was once in charge of the SID position as well as his directorial duties.

In addition to advertising Lyndon State College and its athletic department, Johnson will be in charge of running athletic facilities over the summer and keeping up with maintenance.

Before returning to LSC at the end of the summer, Johnson, who graduated here in 1987 with a degree in physical education and sports management, has been coaching men's and women's basketball, women's softball at multiple age levels. In addition to coaching he has been writing for the Adirondack Daily Enterprise and the Lake Placid News in New York State covering sports. He has won three New York State Newspaper Awards for his coverage of the Ironman Triathlon..

Johnson is also looking into possibly teaching some classes in either journalism or sports management with an emphasis on the public relations side of things.

Hornet Athletics to join North Atlantic Conference

By Andrew R. Koch
Critic Staff

The Lyndon State athletic department announced at the end of this past school year that the college has been invited to join the North Atlantic Conference beginning next season. While the Hornets haven't yet begun competing in the conference, the athletic department started participating in an administrative role last month.

"We are slated officially to begin competing in the NAC in September of '08. While we aren't involved in any team competitions, we are involved in administrative meetings, where decisions for next year are being made this year," Athletic Director Chris Ummer said. Lyndon State has been active in an administrative role with the North Atlantic Conference since August.

According to Ummer, the athletic department submitted an application to the North Atlantic Conference in the fall of last year. This past spring, department representatives gave a PowerPoint presentation and participated in a question-and-answer session at a conference meeting. In a statement posted on the Athletic department's Web site, Ummer described the invitation to join a conference as the second step of a three-step process in becoming a full and active member at the NCAA Division III level:

"This is a real shot in the arm for the LSC athletic program…The first step was leaving the NAIA to rejoin the NCAA. The second step, our identification/membership with a viable NCAA conference, such as the NAC, and three, eventual full or active membership to the NCAA in the fall of 2010."

"We set a goal to become NCAA Division III a couple years ago. We need to take the proper steps to meet that goal of becoming a full Division III member," Ummer said.

Ummer also believes that joining the North Atlantic Conference will be good for Lyndon's student-athletes because travel will be a little more bearable (the teams will no longer have to make long bus trips to Ohio, Pennsylvania or far northern Maine). Along with a geographical advantage, Ummer also praised the quality of the competition within the conference.

"The North Atlantic Conference has been a stable, well-organized conference since its inception, and it continues to be so. There's viable competition in the conference. It's competitive from top to bottom. There aren't any soft teams in that conference," Ummer said.

Some athletes also feel that joining a Division III conference is a good thing for advancing Lyndon State as a college.

"I think it's awesome. It's great because it's better competition," said Matt Picard, a junior pitcher on Lyndon's baseball team. "We'll be playing against a couple of teams that we played in NAIA in the conference, so that'll make the games even more intense."

Picard also feels that joining the NCAA and the North Atlantic Conference is important because it makes the Lyndon community and its athletes a part of major regional and nationwide organizations.

"For a small school like Lyndon State, getting into a big NCAA conference, is huge. It's great for the school, and it's great for the student-athletes to be a part of the NCAA," Picard said. He also cited some of the values the NCAA stands for.

"The NCAA thrives on integrity and on athletes being good all-around people. It makes for better athletes and better people."

According to Ummer, while the school isn't expected to become a full, active member until the fall of 2010, the athletic department will be looking into ways to speed up the process to hopefully join the NCAA even sooner.

THE CRITIC

Serving the student voice of Lyndon State College

Lyndonville, VT | Friday, September 28, 2007 | Volume 54, Number 2

James Osler donates two pints of blood with new method on pg. 5

Allegations of sexual assault shake up Castleton

By Tony Trombetta
Castelton Spartan

CASTELTON-Recent allegations of sexual assaults have Castleton State College in a state of disarray.

At least two alleged sexual assaults, no suspects and no official reports given to police. Add it all up and you're left with confusion.

At the recent informational forum on campus safety at the Casella Theater, Castleton students, faculty and administrators converged to try and sift though this difficult situation.

Castleton President Dave Wolk began the proceedings by acknowledging the fact that the school community was joining together to try to make sure further incidents are avoided.

"Our purpose is to help everyone in our college community to be safe and feel safe," Wolk said. "Our job is to educate and protect."

The man on campus with the most influence over community protection is Director of Public Safety, Bob Godlewski.

According to Godlewski, CSC has a great relationship with local and state police and both are involved.

However, they are unable to make any progress in their investigations because, according to police investigator Gary Boutin, neither alleged victim has filed a report.

"The victim has the absolute right not to report and police respect that right," Boutin said at the forum. "Both reported victims made it perfectly clear that they do not want the police involved."

According to Boutin, there is no physical or forensic evidence at this point.

Castleton Dean of Students Greg Stone, however, had some pretty convincing information to offer up.

"One of the victims said directly to me that it happened and where it happened," Stone said. "I think we're as open a campus as you'll ever find as far as sharing information."

Now, the surrounding community is working together to share knowledge that will prove vital for student protection and prevention.

Paula Kelley-Wall represented the Rutland County Women's Network and Shelter at the informational forum. An outreach advocate for the Castleton area, Kelley-Wall offered advice, contact numbers and whistles to all who attended.

Those present were also told that the college will be holding self defense classes in the upcoming month.

Heather Hurd is a junior at CSC who commutes to Castleton for classes.

"I know some girls that have been to self defense classes," Hurd said. "Because of recent events they were worried enough to take precautions."

Now that students have been informed, some still feel that more needs to be done to keep them safe.

According to Castleton junior John Ciamillo, there is plenty of room for security improvements on campus.

"The campus should have cameras in certain locations to see who's coming and who's going," Ciamillo said. "I dislike cameras but they work."

Ciamillo is married and said he was uncomfortable with the thought of his wife alone on campus at night.

"In light of the recent events I would not let her walk around here," Ciamillo said.

In the past week, public safety has boosted patrols at the South Street parking lot, where at least one of the alleged assaults took place. The decision was made to man the lot 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Public safety is also urging anyone in need of a ride to utilize the college's 24-hour escort service.

False alarms send students into parking lots

By Katie Dorben
Critic Staff

Thursday afternoon, students and teachers were startled by the fire alarm going off in the S.H.A.P.E building.

Everyone was evacuated outside amid the sounds of the fire alarm and thunder.

Not long after, a fire truck from the Lyndonville Fire Department was seen coming up the road with its lights flashing. It pulled into the parking lot in front of the S.H.A.P.E. building. A few firemen got out and went into building.

It was determined to be a false alarm. Not long after, the alarm was shut off and everyone was allowed back into the building much to their relief, as it had started to rain.

Public Safety Director George Hacking was seen speaking with the firefighters.

Lyndonville's Fire Chief, Greg Hopkins, said it was an accidental pull.

George Hacking, Public Safety Director of Lyndon State, said that an eight year-old child had pulled the alarm.

This was at least the third false alarm in two weeks.

Last Monday, the fire alarms in the Arnold, Bayley, and Rogers residence halls went off, startling the students out of their studying.

Students gathered in the Stonehenge courtyard and complaints and rumors flew.

One poor girl in a bathrobe who had been in the shower when the fire alarm went off was seen shivering in the courtyard.

Students heard sirens getting nearer and saw fire trucks pulling into the Stonehenge parking lot.

Several firemen enteredthe residence halls and eventually the all clear was given. It turned out to be a false alarm.

On Sunday there was another false alarm in the Rita Bole Complex.

When asked about the false alarms in the Arnold, Bayley, and Rogers residence halls Hacking said, "We have those a couple of times a month."

Photo by Keith Whitcomb Jr.
Firefighters enter the S.H.A.P.E. building during the false alarm on Thurday afternoon.

Photo by Thomas Borck
A fire truck pulls into the parking lot in front of the S.H.A.P.E. building on LSC's campus on Thursday.

Newly paved road leads to excessive speeds

Photo by Thomas Borck

The newly paved McGoff Hill Road invites people to drive even faster.

By Ben Holbrook
Special to the Critic

Residents of McGoff Hill Road are concerned by the increase in speed of those driving on the road on a regular basis. The speed problem has become so bad that Sue Baillargeon, who lives on McGoff Hill Road, is no longer able to walk her dog on the road.

After McGoff Hill Road was paved in August, the residents who live on the road have seen a significant increase in the speed of those driving on the road. Even before the road was paved people would still drive too fast, said Wade Baillargeon a 25-year resident of Lyndon.

In an effort to curb the speeding some of the residents have contacted local police to ask for more patrols on the road. The road is a town road; however, since the problem is a village versus the town issue, the town must first approve the request and then find funding to patrol the road more often.

Early morning and evening traffic is the worst, due to all the commuters who are heading to Lyndon State College or Lyndon Institute, said Baillargeon. Henry Fong, a resident who lives on McGoff Hill Road, said that nighttime seems to be the worst.

Fong and Baillargeon said that they wonder what will happen during the winter season because of the way people are now driving on the road. People "get comfortable coming down the hill" and there is a higher chance of an accident happening said Baillargeon. All that the residents of McGoff Hill Road want is to see drivers slow down before people get hurt.

Don't get caught in the cold

By Norman Johnson
Special to the Critic

Is your vehicle ready for cold-weather driving? Larry Lefaivre, owner of Burke-View Garage in Lyndonville, has some tips that can save you some grief this winter.

Batteries have a nasty habit of conking out when it gets cold.

"Get a simple battery, alternator, and starter test," Lefaivre said. An alternator, battery, starter test will cost a customer about $15.

Change the fuel filter. A crud-laden filter can make your fuel-starved engine run ragged or worse. A Fuel filter with labor will cost around $25 installed. Get a tune-up and follow your manufacturer's scheduled maintenance schedules.

Make sure things work. He says. Check the heater and defroster now. Don't wait until the first snowy morning when you have to get to class, but you can't clear the windshield to see the road because the defroster is not working properly.. When it's really cold, sometimes your shift-lever will feel like there's peanut butter in the gearbox. Changing to synthetic fluids can help cold weather operation in older manual transmission vehicles. If you have four-wheel drive, make sure it will engage and disengage now instead of when you really need it and it's not there.

Windshield wipers are another part that should be checked now instead of latter. Sometimes simply cleaning the wiper blades with alcohol is all you need when it's raining to eliminate those greasy streaks on the windshield. Change them if they're ragged. Winter blades with covered moving parts resist icing, fit the windshield better, and clear snow more efficiently than warm weather blades. Regular wipers cost around $8-9.00 apiece and winter blades will cost $20-30.00 depending on how high-tech you want to go.

Ground-grabbers are one of the most important winter necesities. Lefaivre stresses using snow tires instead of just all-season tires. "All-season tires alone aren't adequate up here." he says. "For a long time, I thought it was just a way to sell more tires, but four snows are safer than just two."

Lefaivre says mixing tires changes your car's traction. While front-wheel drive has almost eliminated the rear-end swing common in rear-wheel drive vehicles, it's not impossible to find yourself swapping ends on black ice when traction is marginal."It's pretty easy to get $500 body damage these days." he said, meaning the usual $500 insurance deductible. "Two extra tires are cheap compared to body work."

If you drive a diesel vehicle, start using a fuel additive. Service stations usually start pumping winter-conditioned diesel fuel before cold weather starts, but if we get an early cold snap, your fuel could gel, leaving you stalled. Lefaivre says he doesn't see problems with water in gasoline much now, but during sub-zero weather, he recommends using a gasoline dryer additive. The additive runs about $2-4.00 in service stations and convenience stores. Or simply keep the fuel tank full, eliminating condensation from water-laden air.

In an aside he said, "It might seem funny, but I'll pass up a station if I see a tanker unloading…Think of it: hundreds of gallons of gasoline dumping down a three-inch hose has to stir up sediment off the bottom of the tanks."

Block heaters, standard operating equipment in Alaska, are heater elements installed somewhere on your engine or cooling system to keep the block warm during cold weather. A block heater might seem like overkill, but they save a lot of wear and tear on your engine during cold starts. They are essential for any diesel engine, by nature a higher compression engine than gasoline engines. A warm engine block will blow warm air through your defroster, clearing your windows sooner . Depending on your vehicle's design, they can cost between $90-100.00 installed.

Some people use sand bags for traction, great for rear-wheel drives like pick-ups, but in the trunk of a front-wheel drive, they will actually reduce traction. Above all, Lefaivre says, don't use cinder blocks; they'll kill you flying around during an accident.

"Be prepared." Lefaivre says, "Put an old blanket, coat, gloves, and boots in the trunk for emergencies. You never know, they may save your life."

Libraries of the future

By Lauren Potter
Special to the Critic

With online resources gaining strength and popularity, and many online libraries popping up through the internet, what does the future hold for good, old-fashioned books?

After running a Google.com search for "online libraries" internet patrons can gain access to thousands of resources. Many sites are sticking to articles written specifically for internet use. But there are some, like the library at the University of Pennsylvania, that are offering "over 25,000 free books on the Web."

Some online libraries require subscriptions to access the titles, but once enrolled members have access to full books, encyclopedias, and magazine and journal articles. These are organized to search by author, title, subjects, and serial number.

Alyssa DeMeritt, a first year English major at Lyndon State, says sometimes the internet is easier to use due to search engines and quick reference, but she has her reservations. "You can wind up with anything on the internet, when you publish a book you have to have some sort of credibility."

In this information and technology driven 21st century people are spending more time on the internet than ever before. People use it for research, to shop, to keep contact with friends and family members. Why not use it for pleasure reading as well?

The efficiency of internet library resources all depends on the user's reason for accessing the information, and it seems to come down to time limits. Phyllis Green, a Lyndon State College Library supervisor, says that technology is taking over. "It's quick," she said, "but for real readers, it's not comfortable [to read from a computer screen]."

Michael Heath, operations manager at the Curtis Memorial Library in Brunswick, Maine, said that there is defiantly an "added value" in online resources since they are more cost and time efficient for users, but as far as a strictly online library Heath said there is no substitution for a librarian as a first resource and, based on a summer survey of library patrons, "books are still very important to users."

While online libraries do have their positive points, such as a quick resource – having only to move from link to link instead of shelf to shelf – and as "paper savers" as Questia.com calls itself there are bad points too. If the power goes out or the computer system crashes and there are no hard resources to fall back on there could be a serious productivity lag, and as far as pleasure reading cuddling up with a computer seems less inviting than a good book.

Student speaks out against smoking ban

Dear Editor,

I am pretty much outraged over this damn smoking ban. It is completely outrageous.

Whoever thinks this is going to hinder people smoking on campus is going to be in for quite the surprise as no one will follow along. **** anyone who thinks this will stop cigarette butts and other litter on campus. I for one will be taking any and all butts I find on the parking lot and will place them in the courtyard.

I urge all students on when we come back in January to join in on a smoke-in on the lower campus. I will be providing cigars for all who are interested.

If they start to ban these things, what's next? No more meat in the dining areas because vegans are offended by the scent of a nice juicy steak? Alcohol banned because someone thinks alcohol is the devil's work? Videogames? Music?

Are we going to become mindless drones, marching along to the drums of Political Correctness? NO! This is America; we have every right to smoke outside our buildings. 25 feet is a good distance to stand away from the smoke. A little smoke isn't going to kill you. I'm going to be an Alumni member next year, and if the school thinks it's going to get any money from me now that it is restricting student's freedoms, they have another thing coming.

James Matthew Hunt
Kappa Delta Phi
Xi Chapter Vice President

Holy Sheet

By Jordan Royer

AIMing for a better sex life?

The easy access to online messaging has made sex easier. How? Well, just think. So there is this girl or guy that you have been eying in class but you are just too shy to generate any real conversation.

The problem can be easily solved when you get online and start chatting with the person you are interested in. I know for me, there is almost nothing I won't say online, I mean, when you don't have to see someone's reactions or tell it to their face, it is much easier to say exactly how you feel. Granted, saying what you feel may not always work, but you are getting a lot farther than if you just sat in class and daydreamed about getting in their pants.

Everyone I'm sure has heard of the wonderful little thing called drunk dialing, well, drunk messaging is a common trend as well. With a few drinks in you it becomes a lot easier to use those words you might not normally use like, 'baby' and 'beautiful,' the words that just may "rub" them the right way and have you on the fast track to the bedroom.

I am once again going to talk about safety. Not about prophylactics or any sort of birth control method, but instead another safety measure. Planning your next sexual rendezvous. I am a little out of the loop in some situations because I no longer live on campus, but I still remember some things about having sex on campus that didn't go all that smoothly.

First off, sex on the top bunk. Sure the top bunk is cool, that is, until you have a special someone over and then you have to worry about falling off or smacking your head or other body parts off the ceiling when you are bumping uglies. I mean, things go limp in a hurry if you smack your head off the ceiling.

Another dorm room mishap is when your roommate walks in when you are in a compromising position and when I say this, I don't always mean with someone else. Luckily it has never happened to me, although I am more than open about masturbating, but getting walked in on by someone when you are doing the dirty on yourself is down right embarrassing.

My freshman year a kid at the end of my hall thought he was all safe and secure. His roommate had left for the weekend and he had the door locked. Little did he know that his roommate gave his key to his girlfriend so she could get some things. Needless to say- she saw a "handful" of things when she opened the door.

Tip for the week- Don't rock the top bunk too hard, you might get hurt.

Position of the Week- The Sleeping Beauty

Required entrance exams are expensive as well as overrated

By Colleen Lindsay
Daily Egyptian (Southern Illinois U.)

(U-WIRE) CARBONDALE, Ill. - If you are a senior with an extra $140 on your hands, I would consider canceling that party. With grad school just around the corner for some of us, the next step forward is probably to take the GRE.

The idea of a standardized test gives some the heebie-jeebies. After all, one exam lasting around two and a half hours will determine if you make the cut for grad school funds or have to scramble for a loan. Just one exam. That one exam is supposed to tap into all the knowledge that you have gained over a lifetime.

So, does it? That is up for debate. After all, your knowledge is much different than anyone else's. So, unless that exam is written for you, it will probably not examine your ability. It will simply examine your ability in comparison with a baseline of accepted, this-is-what-you-need-to-know information.

One of my big complaints about standardized exams is the cost. For a college student, taking an exam like the GRE, or other exams to enter master's programs, is expensive especially when many of us live below the poverty line. Now, many take their exams more than once to try to get a better score. This requires reaching into the piggy bank again to exchange the savings account for an exam.

Another problem with these exams is that people tend to take them over and over again. This may not seem like such a big problem on the surface. After all, if you get an unsatisfactory score, it is your prerogative to take it again and try to get a better one. If the master's program that you are wanting to get in to requires a better score than the one you received, you can try again for a better score. However, with so many taking the exam again, the results are skewed.

An average score is no longer acceptable — you must retake.

Now, after taking the exam once already, you have helpful hints and understand the structure of the exam. It puts you at an advantage over the first-time test takers. This may mean that a better student that took the exam once gets placed lower than an average student that took the exam many times.

Is this a problem? Does persistence count when you are going to grad school? Some would argue that it does; however, that is not what the exam was scoring or what the grad program set out to analyze.

My final complaint with standardized exams is that they are the standard for any aid that you get from the school. Generally, the program looks at everything else you have done but bases a substantial amount on an exam that probably took less than three hours to complete. Therefore, your academic career is made or broken in a little less than the amount of time it takes to watch "Gandhi." That is a little far-reaching for me.

Letter Policy:

The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must be signed and include the author's phone number and address. The Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:

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How does your Favorite Restaurant score on the cleanliness test?

By Amanda Wozniak
Layout Editor

The Vermont Department of Health, Food and Lodging protects people from food-borne illnesses with their annual visits. Most people know them as 'health inspectors'.

Health inspectors use a 44-item checklist to make sure restaurants, delis, food markets, hotels, bakeries, school food service facilities, fair stands, and other food service areas are safe for the consumers. They also educate the establishments about how to keep up with the proper methods, and health codes used in the food service industries.

The 44-item checklist used is broken up into two categories, "critical" and "non-critical. There are 13 critical items on the list. These are things that if left uncorrected could potentially cause a food-borne illness and should be corrected while the inspector is there. The remaining 33 items on the list measure cleanliness and construction.

The critical items weigh more heavily in the scoring than the non-critical. Using the 44-item checklist an establishment can earn a perfect score of 100. To pass the inspection an establishment must have a 70 or better and no critical items in violation. If these requirements are not met they are asked to voluntarily close their doors to business until they are in compliance with the rules and regulations.

The following is how local food establishments fared in the St. Johnsbury/Lyndonville area in 2007.

The lowest scores ranged from 70 – 79. Asia Restaurant received a score of 70 on May 18. They had four critical violations; these included: #3. Potentially hazardous food does not meet time and temperature requirements during storage, preparation, display, service and transportation, #12. Personnel must wash hands and use good hygienic practices, be free of jewelry and have nails trimmed, #35. Insects, rodents and other animals are not being kept out of the restaurant by screens or self-closing doors, and lastly #41. Necessary toxic items must be properly stored separated, labeled and used.

The second lowest score in the area was received by First Wok Restaurant. They received a #71 three days later. They too had critical violations; #3, #35, and #41. Differing from Asia they also had #31. Adequate, convenient and properly maintained toilet facilities are not available.

Vinny's Italian American Restaurant received a 77 on May 31, violating numbers #3, #31, and #35.

The largest number of establishment received a score between 80 and 89. There were 18 of these. The lowest in this category was KFC/Taco Bell. They received an 80 on July 27; seven points lower than they received on May 4. Their critical violations included #12, #35, and #41.

Elements Restaurant, with only one more point than KFC/Taco Bell, violated #3 and #41. Lyndon Outing Club came in next with an 82 on March 1, violating #12, #35, and #41. Scoring an 83 was the Wildflower Inn on August 28 violating #3 and #12 on the list.

The River Bend Diner in St. Johnsbury received an 84 on January 2. They violated #22. Food equipment and utensils are not being properly sanitized and #35. Tied with them was also Tim's Deli who received their score on May 23 violating critical articles on the list, #35 and #41.

Receiving a score of 85 was the East Garden on February 7 for violations of #4 Cross-contamination is not prevented, and #41. The Black Bear Tavern & Grille also receiving an 85 violated #3 and #4 on April 27. McDonalds Restaurant in St. Johnsbury was inspected on April 13 and violated #12 and #41. On June 28 the St. Johnsbury Country Club also received an 85 violating item numbers #22 and #41.

Receiving an 86 was Anthony's Diner on Jan 29 violating on one critical item (#22). Dunkin Donuts in St. Johnsbury also received an 86 on June 5 they violated #12 and #35 on the list. McDonald's in Lyndonville beating St. Johnsbury by one point received an 86 violated #3 and #41.

Scoring an 88 were Dylan's Café on June 28 in St. Johnsbury and China Moon Buffet on August 10. Dylan's violated #3 and China Moon had two violations, #31 and #35.

The final two food establishments in the area, which scored in the 80 to 89 range, were Lyndon Institute DBA Aramark on May 2 and Front Row Sports Tavern on July 27. Aramark had critical points off on #3 whereas Front Row had no critical point taken off.

Scoring a 90 to 99 were 13 local food establishments. With a 91 is the St. Johnsbury Subway, receiving points off for #35, on May 21. Also scoring a 91 is Pearl's Diner who received points off on February 5 for #3.

The Lyndonville House of Pizza was inspected on March 19 and they received points off on critical item #3.

The following food establishments were in compliance with all critical items on the list. Sweet Basil received a 93 on January 19. Merl's Deli and Bakery at Petty Co Junction received a 94 on February 16. St. Johnsbury VFW (Jan 8), Winegate (Jan 16), and The Freight House Restaurant (June 20) all received a 95. Tavern on the Hill received a 96 on May 23. The Lyndonville VFW received a 97 on February 13 as well as Hoagie's Pizza and Pasta on August 28.

Receiving a perfect 100 was The Albro Nichols House on August 21.

Dynamite on a China Plate

By Heather Perkins
Critic Staff

Jay Leeming came to the college this past Wednesday night to the Burke Mountain Room for a poetry reading. He read both new, fresh poems that he had been testing out for a new book, and old ones that he pulled from his book "Dynamite on a China Plate", the audience enjoyed it.

Alan Boye, English professor, attended the reading said, "His poetry was exactly what poetry should be, which is taking us from our ordinary and transporting us to the extraordinary, almost without us realizing it." He then continues, adding, "His poems were very accessible and wonderfully read."

Many poems over the course of that night were shared, including the oldest from his book entitled "Grandpa Putting Salt on His Ice Cream" which had been written in the 90s. There were others as well that drew reactions from the audience, like "Ego" and "Typing Class."

Jay Leeming had been writing poetry for years, jokingly telling Chandler Gilman's Writing Poetry class that his first poem was written in the third grade.

He started out as a music major in college, and his poetry started as music lyrics. But he did end up later going to grad school for creative writing. He survived as a "professional poet" by taking up several part-time jobs, leaving him time for his writing. Various jobs were things like Green Peace, social services (six years worth), and working as a temp in various offices in New York City.

Now, he takes up community poetry jobs, sometimes working at after school programs, as well as helping out at a senior citizen center. He's taken up editing jobs as well. Anything to pay that rent when landlords don't accept a poem over a check, he joked.

When asked his thoughts about being a poet he said, "It was not where I thought I would be, I mean, I was a music-man ten years ago."

Leeming was born and raised in Ithaca, New York. He is currently living there now.

Leeming was happy about the turnout that his reading drew. He said that it went pretty well, and that the audience seemed responsive, even laughing out at times. Gilman commented about the attendance, many of which were his students, and others there for other reasons. "There were at least sixty people there," Gilman says, and "we ran out of seats."

Music Festival in Burke Mountian

By Gillian Moore
Special to The Critic

Burke Mountain will be holding its first ever music festival this Saturday, just in time for Family Weekend.

Barry Sykes of the marketing department at Burke commented, "This is going to be a great show, and hopefully one that the communities of the Northeast Kingdom can feel good about."

Vermont's Grace Potter and the Nocturnals have recently been added to the list of artists scheduled to play, along with Sister Hazel and the lead singer of the Verve Pipe, Brian Vander Ark.

The concerts will be held behind the Sherburne Base Lodge from 3:00 to 8:00pm. Tickets can be purchased at the Sherburne Base Lodge, the Tamarack Grill, or by ordering online. They are $25 in advance or $30 the day of the festival. Sales have picked up since last week, and there are only twenty-five hundred tickets available.

Sykes added, "It'll be good for the parents to know there is something going on for the students and community. Hopefully it'll make them feel good about their kids' education. This is the first annual, and if it goes out with a bang there will be many more to come."

A share of the profits will be donated to "Kingdom Kids", an organization that helps children of the area afford to do outdoor activities like biking and skiing. This event is in conjunction with Burke Village's 20th Annual Fall Foliage Festival.

The Red Cross visits LSC

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.
Critic Editor

A new way to give blood was available at the Red Cross blood drive, held in the Rita Bole Gym Wednesday.

It's called double red cell donation, and it means just what is sounds like: donors give twice as much. Losing two pints of blood in one sitting might sound like a bit much, but with this process, the blood taken out is run through a machine which separates the blood from some of the stuff in the blood, most notably plasma and platelets.

Separated from blood, the platelets and plasma go into another bag and are pumped back into the donor. The stuff looks a little like bear with some foam at the top. "We call it blood light," Priscilla King, a recruiter for double red cell donations, said.

The benefits of a double red cell donation extend in both directions. Whoever happens to need a lot of blood at one time will now be able to get the blood from the same donor, whereas without it, the transfusion might be coming from different people.

The donor isn't any worse for wear afterwards either, despite having lost two pints of blood. "Most people feel better when they leave," King said. "They're not as dehydrated."

Another plus to do the double red cell donation is that a donor only needs to go through it three times a year to reach the maximum amount of blood her or she is allowed to donate in a year.

There are a few added restrictions for people who want to do the double donation. For males, you have to be at least five feet, one inch tall and weigh at least 150 pounds. For females, it's five feet, five inches tall and 175 pounds.

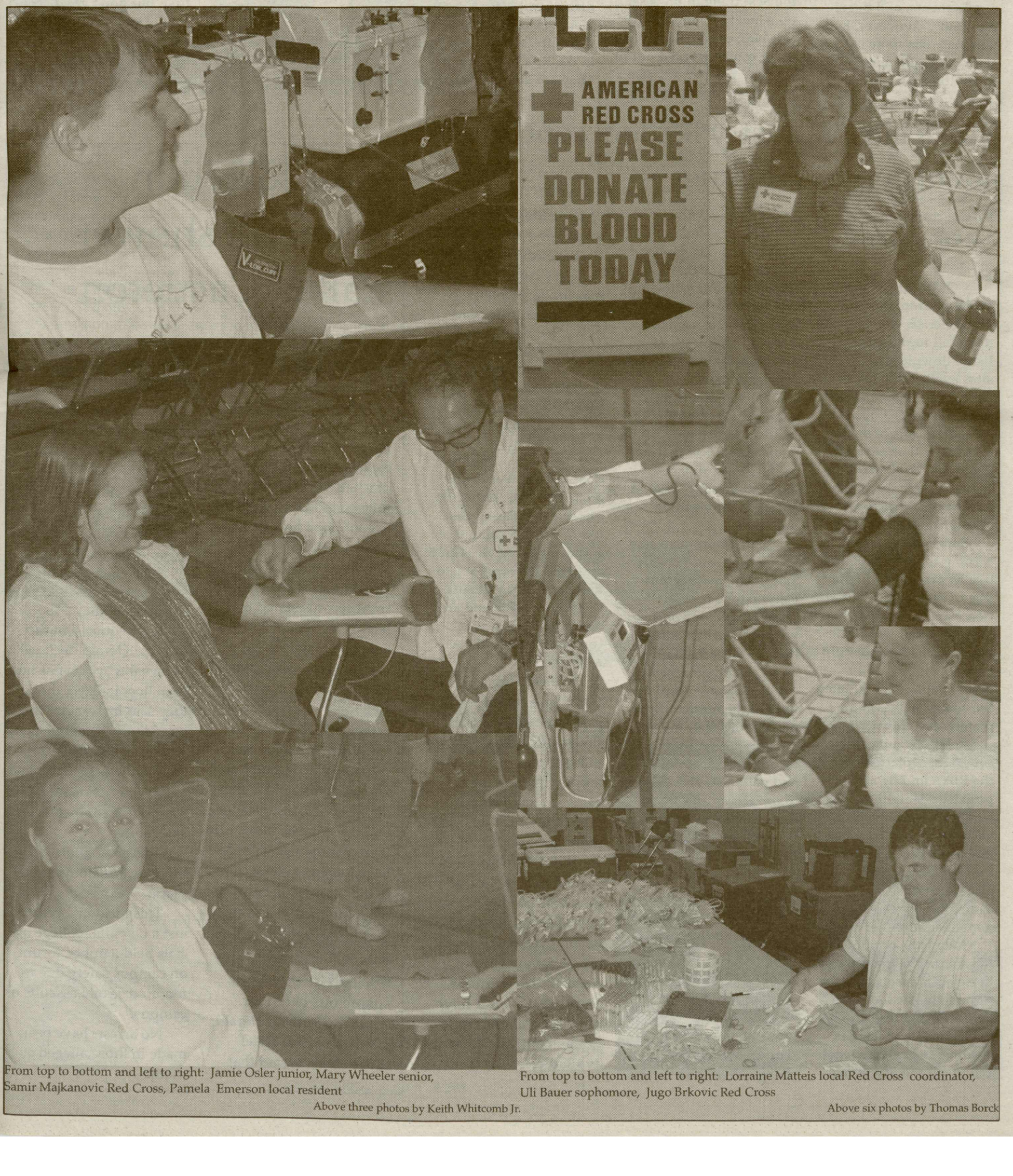
James Osler, a junior, was of one of the nine people who opted for the double red cell donation. "Last year I learned about it, and I've wanted to do it since," Osler said. "It takes a little longer, but it's well worth it."

Doing a double donation can take anywhere from a half an hour to an hour, whereas a normal donation can be over in about five minutes, Osler said.

All together, the blood drive collected 133 donations (double donors got counted twice) with 20 people being deferred, Roger Hill, charge nurse, said.

"This was awesome. The kids were great and everyone was wonderful," King said.

He was also pleased about the amount and quality of the volunteer work put into the drive. "You can't beat the volunteers who come in and help," King said. "You can't have a blood drive without them."



From top to bottom and left to right: Jamie Osler junior, Mary Wheeler senior, Samir Majkanovic Red Cross, Pamela Emerson local resident

Above three photos by Keith Whitcomb Jr.

From top to bottom and left to right: Lorraine Matteis local Red Cross coordinator, Uli Bauer sophomore, Jugo Brkovic Red Cross

Above six photos by Thomas Borck

Disability resources available for students

By Katie Dorben
Critic Staff

The transition from high school to college can be difficult for anyone, but it can be especially hard for people with a disability. Students often look for schools that offer good disability resources.

Lyndon State's Official website says about its disability services "Lyndon does not have separate programs for students with disabilities, and all students must meet requirements for individual courses, general education requirements, and degree programs." However, Lyndon State has some resources to help make the transition easier.

If a student has a learning disability or any other disability that could interfere with his or her academic performance, the best thing to do is to contact Mary Etter in the

Academic Support Center. Etter is the learning specialist and can help set up accommodations to help students be a more successful. Some examples of common accommodations include extra time on exams and the use of a calculator. In order to discuss possible accommodations, the best thing to do is set up a meeting with Etter before classes start so everything can be worked out in a timely manner. It's also a good idea to keep in contact with her in case anything should change.

Project Excel also has resources for students with disabilities. Some of theses resources include a laptop lending program, free tutoring, and academic counseling. All students with disabilities are entitled to accommodations under Section 504 of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Acts of 1990. Project Excel and the Academic Support Center are located in LAC, right next door to the Library.

Housing can be a great concern when you have a disability. It's best to contact the Department of Student Life, which is located in the Rita Bole Complex. They are able to work with students to see which residence hall best suits the students needs. For example, there is Rita Bole, which has an elevator, handicap showers, handicap parking, and a full kitchen that allows students with dietary concerns to cook their own meals. Students should contact them as soon as possible because housing fills up fast.

Another good resource is the Brown House. Even if a disability doesn't require a student to make frequent use of the Brown House's services, it's always a good idea to make them aware of the situation, just in case something should happen. The Brown House offers counseling, medical exams, treatment for minor injuries and illnesses and can provide some prescription medications.

Attending college with a disability is a lot different then attending high school with one. In college it's the student's responsibility to advocate for his or her self, fill out all of the paperwork, and make sure that he or she gets the accommodations that are needed. It can be tough at first, but don't get discouraged. Don't be afraid to ask for help, that is why these resources exist.

Musicians, industry leaders concerned about copyright issues

By Courtney Jones
The Daily Gamecock

COLUMBIA, S.C. (U-WIRE) - From the pop culture crisis of Napster's downfall to the growing list of downloading websites available today that claim to be legal, peer-to-peer music file sharing is an endless source of conflict. More than seven years ago, the Recording Industry Association of America filed the first lawsuit against Napster.

Before they started turning to other free sites like Kazaa and Gnutella due to the negative attention Napster was getting, the number of Napster users reached over 25 million.

A year and a half later, the company was completely shut down after several more suits for copyright violations by the RIAA and by artists — primarily Metallica and Dr. Dre — seeking to get back the money they lost due to illegal downloading. The company has since started operating again, but its website is no longer a free service.

Today, the opinions on file sharing range from those of intensely disapproving music industry authority figures, who believe that file sharing is stealing and call for legal action, all the way down to complete apathy.

Besides being illegal, both record companies and artists say that stealing music betrays the artist and makes it harder for newer musicians to make it, especially when an album leaks before its official release.

Yngwie Malmsteen, a solo artist formerly of the band Cornerstone, says he is upset that file sharing is still happening so much, especially when it comes to unreleased music.

"Only journalists had copies," he said of "Two Tales," the most recent Cornerstone release.. "Why would one of them upload it? What's in it for them?" The artists are angry, and their record companies are completely livid at the notion of people sharing their music.

When it comes to those who Her family had paid a service charge to use Kazaa and was being sued for anything between $3,000 and $150,000 per song.

The RIAA alone has sued almost 2,000 individuals since 2004 and can still sue for up to $150,000 per illegally downloaded song.

The websites available for music downloading range from iTunes, which typically charges $.99 per song, to the older sites like Kazaa and Limewire that are often still illegal even after users pay a hefty service charge.

Many college campuses, including the University of South Carolina, encourage the use of Ruckus. Ruckus is a completely free and legal program that only allows the music to be played on its own media player and does not allow users to burn the music onto CDs. Those encouraging the use of Ruckus claim that it is completely virus-free and easy for everyone to use, but many students say it is a hassle and are not happy that it is incompatible with Mac OS X.

File sharing will always be a touchy subject, especially among the artists who have yet to start making enough money from record sales to make up for what they lose when albums are leaked and shared. Unfortunately for the record companies behind them, however, file sharing has become a luxury that music lovers cannot seem to live without — and they will not have to as long as the programs continue to be available.

Man seized in women's shower stall at Castleton

By Eva Kane Leenman
Castleton Spartan

CASTLETON - The Connecticut man who was arrested in the women's locker room last Wednesday had yet to be arraigned as of Monday due to continued hospitalization.

According to a Rutland Herald report last week, court records stated that Jeremy Stevens, 24, of Easton, Conn., who is not a CSC student, was apprehended hiding in a shower stall in the college fitness center.

A campus-wide alert sent to college faculty, staff and students last Wednesday from Communications Director Ennis Duling, said there was no reason to believe there is a connection to the assaults on campus over the past few weeks, and he urged the recipients to "continue to stay safe and to report any suspicious behavior."

In the Rutland Herald, Castleton Police Chief Bruce Sherwin said that Stevens was charged by Castleton Police with two counts of simple assault, simple assault on a law enforcement officer, and resisting arrest.

A number of college students who witnessed Stevens' arrest said he was put into a police car "kicking and screaming."

Sherwin added that Stevens also pulled a knife on him at one point.

Police quoted in the Rutland Herald declined to reveal why Stevens has been hospitalized, though they said he was not injured in the incident. Court records stated that attorneys in the case had asked for an evaluation of Stevens for competency and sanity.

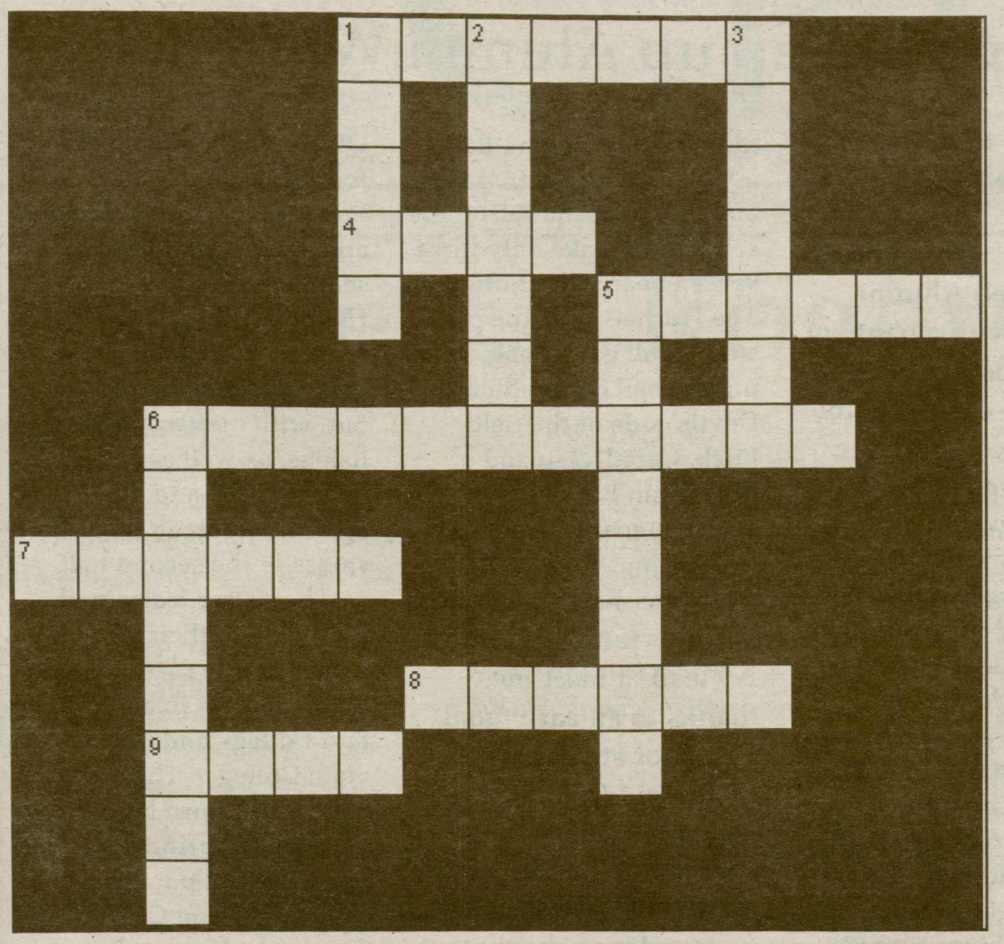
This evaluation, as of Monday, has not yet taken place.

This incident occurred just a day after college officials held a public forum on campus safety due to reported sexual assaults on campus.

No arrests have been made in those alleged assaults.

Fun Page

"I assure you that this Fun Page far exceeds the previous one by... uh....something."



Crossword on Campus Life

DOWN

1. If you don't take this out, your roommate will attack you.
2. Someone who talks and part of a stereo.
3. This may be banned from campus come January.
5. You may have one on your wall, full of dates.
6. Richard Moye and David Johnston each have an amazing ----------.

ACROSS

1. These are good for crying and nighttime Internet activities.
4. If you forgot to bring this to college, you probably smell bad.
5. You are curently holding The --------.
6. A big major here, for weathermen and such.
7. You may have this decorating your wall , with Johnny Depp on it.
8. Favorite yellow fruit from the cafeteria.
9. You should join at least one on campus or else you'll look like a loser.

Horoscopes

(In no particular order)

Sagittarius: Remember that thunder storm? If you had been struck by lightning, you would've become a superhero. Sorry, you only had one chance.

Aquarius: It is the dawning of your age. Let the sun shine in, my friend.

Cancer: In high school, your mom told you you're cool. Now you have Facebook. Every person who adds you as a friend surely thinks you're cool, too.

Pisces: This weekend will be an excellent time to eat, drink, and make love. I'd like you to name the result of this after me.

Aries: You are unbelievably sexy and talented. EVERYBODY WANTS YOU!!! Oh, wait, that's your past life.

Scorpio: So, how'd that go last week? Don't forget that you can trick lots of people to become your friend on Facebook.

Taurus: Wear a jock-strap for the next few days. That's right, even if you're a girl. You'll thank me later.

Virgo: Death will touch you soon. Get a good lawyer so you can sue his @$$ for sexual harrassment.

Libra: ...Sorry. I still can't get over the fact that "bra" is in "Libra". Boobs are funny.

Gemini: So, how goes the slaying of your evil twin? Look for him on facebook. I bet the bastard uses your name, too.

Leo: Avoid keeping multiple boyfriends/girlfriends. It will be your downfall. I'm warning you.

Capricorn: You need to listen to more 80's music to improve your life. This is the most serious thing I have ever written.

College Problems Word Find

U	Q	Y	O	D	A	H	U	N	G	O	V	E	R	G	W	C
E	A	H	W	A	J	V	V	S	K	K	K	P	W	S	G	N
P	M	U	T	Y	M	T	L	Q	S	G	J	H	O	G	F	L
C	P	W	G	O	N	O	C	O	N	D	O	M	K	C	B	E
I	H	G	U	Z	K	H	L	K	L	L	V	R	U	S	T	Q
F	F	U	K	A	P	K	M	G	H	K	O	S	X	A	R	L
D	P	E	F	K	L	K	Z	X	W	W	G	G	M	M	I	R
M	Q	F	D	A	A	G	O	E	E	O	W	M	S	C	F	B
T	X	U	J	B	Y	C	X	M	V	H	O	R	L	H	W	L
Z	A	E	F	T	I	F	O	R	G	O	T	P	E	N	D	P
V	Q	H	W	D	N	H	T	H	R	H	N	G	P	F	T	U
S	X	B	F	X	G	Z	T	W	N	A	I	V	T	W	G	I
X	F	R	A	D	H	U	E	W	L	S	Y	V	I	M	E	S
O	G	X	A	M	A	N	O	D	C	E	F	Q	N	Q	B	F
Y	B	S	U	L	L	O	S	T	B	O	O	K	J	L	E	I
W	T	L	K	L	O	U	D	M	U	S	I	C	P	B	U	X
H	A	C	C	O	M	P	U	T	E	R	C	R	A	S	H	R

Word List

Hung Over
No Condom
Homework
Playing Halo
New Roommate
Forgot Pen
Slept In
Lost Book
Loud Music
Computer Crash

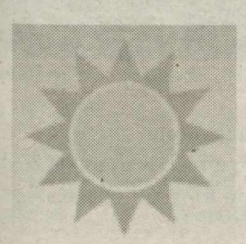
Disclaimer: These Puzzles aren't meant to take over twenty minutes.

Puzzles Generated by Overlord of Fun, Eric Downing. Yes, there is no Sudoku. Don't complain. My Sudoku's are too easy.

WEATHER!!! OH BOY!!! WOOHOO!

RAIN
66-70 F

MOSTLY CLOUDY
60-64 F



SUNNY
66-70 F

WEATHER FORECAST

Student Meterologist: Bryan Shaw

The latest forecast for Northeast Vermont including Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans counties.
Well if you did not know any better you might think that we are in the middle of the Summer. The warm, muggy, and stormy weather continues into tonight and Friday. A cold front approaches cooling things off for the weekend but with a cold front also comes rain. Expect about an inch of rain over the next 24-36 hours. High pressure comes back for Sunday giving us clear, sunny skies.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWER:

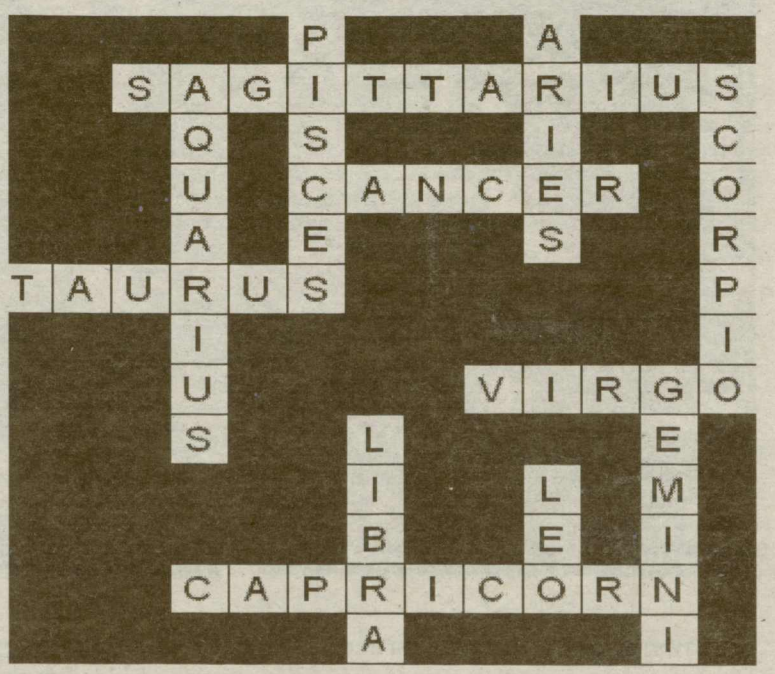


Photo by Jordan Royer

Darren Roberge carries the ball towards the opposing net during last Sunday's game against Hesser College. The Hornets won impressively, 6-1 to finish off a sweep on the last day of Alumni Weekend.

Hornets soccer comes up with a clean sweep to wrap up Alumni Weekend

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

Lyndon State's soccer teams ended Alumni Weekend with a bang on Sunday, posting big wins at home to earn a doubleheader sweep over the Hesser Blue Devils.

The Lady Hornets came into Sunday struggling as a team, having lost four out of their first five games. However, the team played like a very dominant, winning squad, streaking out to a 4-0 lead in the first half before scorching the Hesser defense for five more goals in the second half. The Lady Hornets won 9-0, but not before things turned physical in the latter stages of the second half.

Junior striker Kelly Warren and sophomore midfielder Kathy Kline each scored hat tricks (three goals) and an assist. Sophomore striker Shauna Buck added a goal and an assist, and junior goalie Kari Johnson had to make only three saves to earn the shutout. The Hornets kept the pressure on all game long, keeping the ball on the Blue Devils' side of the field. Buck, Cara Dolan and Kelseyann Regan each scored a goal to round out the scoring.

In the men's game, the Hornets jumped out to a 2-0 lead at halftime, thanks to an early goal by junior striker Heath Richmond (two goals), as well as a penalty kick goal late by junior midfielder Kyle Hessler.

After losing the shutout early in the second half, the Hornets exploded for four unanswered goals to put the game away. The Hornets won, 6-1, to bring their record back up to .500. Goalies Jeff Giroux and Ian Oliver combined to make four saves for the win. Freshman Jimmy Gaskell and Tyler Bullard each scored a goal, as did Heath's twin brother, junior Emmett Richmond. The game was intense throughout, with numerous big collisions, as well as two yellow cards and a red card against Hesser in the latter stages of the second half.

The soccer teams will play each of their next four games on the road, including games at Green Mountain College and Castleton State College. The men's team will return home on October 7, during the fall break, for a 2 p.m. game against Husson College. The Lady Hornets' next home will be a 1 p.m. kickoff on October 13 against the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts.

What's the Buzz on the LSC Hornets?

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

Several Lyndon State athletes won awards during the past couple weeks.

Senior cross country runner Lyndsay Calkins won both the USCAA Runner of the Week, as well as Lyndon State's Female Athlete of the Week for the week ending September 16.

Senior midfielder Mike Thatcher won the Male Athlete of the Week award for the same period.

Calkins is picking up right where she left off at the end of last season, winning the Hornet Invitational at LSC on September 8, running the four-kilometer course in a time of 17:18. A week later, Calkins finished second overall at the Middlebury Panther Invitational, running the five-kilometer course in 19:11

Thatcher scored both goals for the Hornets, including the game winning goal, as the Hornets beat the Southern Maine Community College at home, 2-1 in overtime.

Junior strikers Kelly Warren and Heath Richmond won the school's Athletes of the Week awards for the week ending September 23.

Warren is coming off a First-Team USCAA All-American selection last year. She has five goals and an assist in the Lady Hornets' last two games, and leads the team in scoring with six goals and three assist for a total of fifteen points.

Richmond, who scored two goals in the Hornets' 6-1 win over Hesser, is second on the men's team in scoring. He has three goals and one assist for seven points on the year.

Photo by Jordan Royer

Kelly Warren dribbles the ball past midfield against the Hesser defense in their game on Sunday. The Lady Hornets won in a rout, 9-0. Warren scored three goals and added an assist in the game.

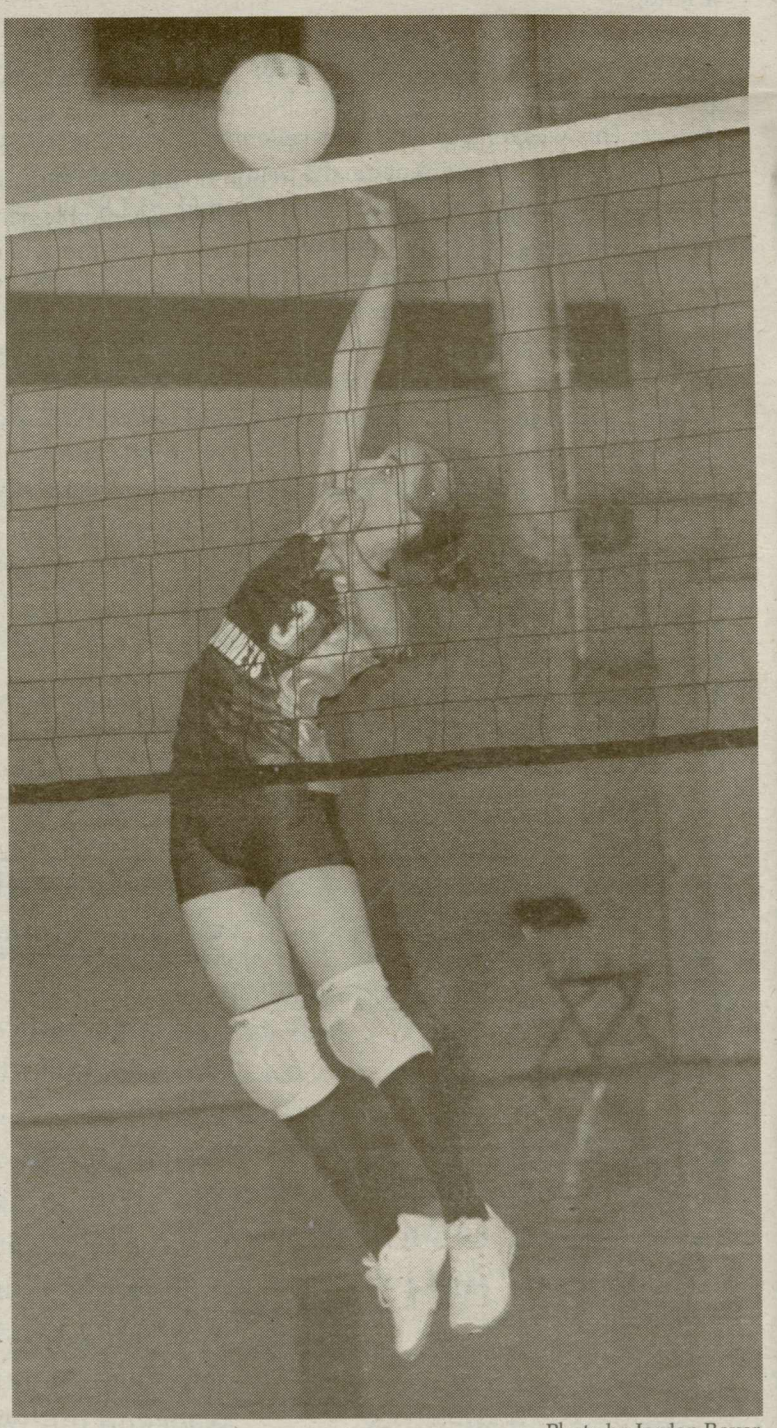


Photo by Jordan Royer

Tracy Anketell spikes the ball during the Hornets' home opener agianst Norwich. The Hornets volleyball team, which is in its second year, has won each of their last two matches and four out of their last five to improve to 6-5 on the year.

THE CRITIC

Serving the student voice of Lyndon State College

Lyndonville, Vt. www.lyndonstate.edu/critic Friday, October 12, 2007 Volume 54, Number 3

The Accademic Support Center recieves its official dedication Pg.2

Fire set in Rogers residence hall

By Ben Holbrook
Special to the Critic

A fire in suite 201 in the Rogers building around 1:30 a.m. left the residents of the suite wondering who set it and why.

Matt DiPirrio, a sophomore meteorology major, was lying in his bed when he heard people come into the suite. The unknown intruders then tried to force their way into his room by pushing down the door handle and repeatedly body slamming the door. DiPirrio could hear slurred words as the two trashcans in the suite were thrown in front of his door.

After the intruders left the suite DiPirrio tried to wake up his roommate and then left the room where he saw and smelled smoke in the suite and noticed the smoldering newspapers next to the sink. DiPirrio grabbed the newspapers and dragged them into the sink where he doused them with water.

Although the people who started the fire weren't seen, "the keywords are that there was more than one person," DiPirrio said.

Ryan Lee, a sophomore graphic design major who also lives in suite 201, said that he heard people come into the suite around 1:30 a.m. People could be heard swearing and saying, "I'm so p****d I could burn this f****ing place down," said Lee.

Lee could hear trashcans being thrown around and hear the people talking. About twenty minutes later Lee heard the people leave and then saw a flash under his door as the fire alarms went off. As he left his room Lee saw DiPirrio trying to put out the burning newspapers. Neither Lee nor DiPirrio were able to identify the intruders.

The residents of suite 201 were very angry about being woken up, "I'm f****ing p****d that I had to wake up that early," said Lee whose normal 8:00 a.m. class was cancelled that morning.

Mike Lang, a sophomore television studies major, heard banging in the suite between one and two that morning. He heard one of the intruders say, "f*** f*** I'm going to burn this place down," said Lang. Lang didn't want to leave his room because he wasn't sure how many people were in the suite.

Josh Fanjoy, a freshmen meteorology major, also heard people banging on doors but wasn't sure if anybody banged on his door since he was half asleep. He heard the fire alarms go off and when he went out into the suite he could smell smoke but didn't see any fires.

Shortly after the fire alarm was pulled in Roger's the Lyndonville Fire Department arrived on the scene to investigate the building. Residents of the building were forced to wait outside for about 30 minutes before they could go back inside.

Nobody was injured in suite 201 and there was no damage done to the suite although there were ashes from the burning newspapers in the sink and on the counter.

The fire in Rogers's suite 201 is still under investigation and there are no confirmed suspects said George Hacking, director of Public Safety.

Anytime there is a fire alarm that is pulled there is an investigation said Hacking. The penalty for pulling a false fire alarm is immediate eviction from campus and a fine of $500 said Hacking.

Photo by Thomas Borck
Above: a student walks past the Rogers residence hall

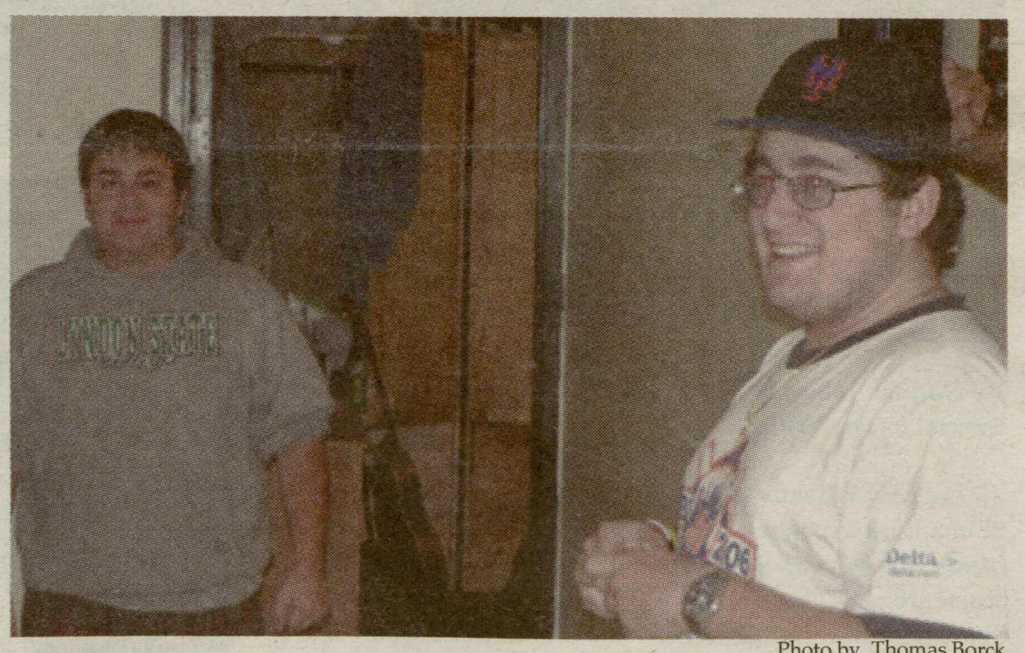


Photo by Thomas Borck
Matt DiPirro, left, stands by his room where he was woken up by people trying to force their way inside. He left his room after the people had gone to find burning newspapers in the suite's sink

State of the college address reflects LSC growing pains

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.
Critic Editor

Retention rates and growth were the two major points brought up at the state of the college address held on October 9.

While the college pulled in 555 new students this semester, the push to get more in for 2008 is behind schedule. "We're about 1000 inquiries behind," Mark Hilton, interim dean of Admissions, said. "What that translates into deposits, we don't know yet."

The inquiries in question are all out-of-state inquiries, with the two states most affected being New York and New Jersey.

Retention rates are still an issue for LSC. The retention rate for first year students coming into the Fall 2007 semester, while not final, was 53.70 percent, Donna Dalton, dean of Academic Affairs, said. For 2006, the retention rate was 57.66 percent. As for overall retention rates, LSC experienced drop for 2007 to 67.50 percent, down from 2006's 70.10 percent.

"Getting them from now to graduation is our challenge," Dalton said. "If we can get them on the right track, they will matriculate into their second, third, and fourth year."

Aside from academic and judicial dismissals, some of the top reasons for students leaving LSC include wanting to be closer to home, not liking the rural area, not having enough money, and various personal reasons, LSC President Carol Moore, said.

"We know that we retain athletes more so than the rest of the normal student population," Moore said, citing involvement in the community as a key to retaining students. "You've heard me say this many, many times, but retention is everybody's business."

Recruitment and retention are directly related to how LSC pays the bills. Graphs presented by Dean of Administration Wayne Hamilton, showed how far state funding goes to support LSC. For the Fall of 2007, 18.3 percent of the college's revenue came from the state; a figure a little under $5 million.

LSC needs to either recruit more students, or retain the ones it gets in order to make enough money from tuition and fees to pay the bills. "If we don't, we'll be faced with downsizing in some areas," Hamilton said. "If we could get that second year number to 62 percent, which is the norm, we'd reach 1600 [students] just by retaining them."

LSC is in the same situation as the other schools in the VSC system when it comes to low state appropriations. The five VSC schools got $23.1 million from the state in 2006, while UVM received $37.9 million.

When asked about the issue of state appropriation, Moore said "It has proven not to be good politics to point out that disparity."

While the amount of state money given to the VSC has gone up since the fall of 1990, so has enrollment. In 1990, the total state appropriations per student was $3,299. In the fall of 2005, the number climbed to $3,329; a difference of $30 over a 15 year period.

Bob Whittaker, dean of Institutional Advancement, reported successes in fund raising goals. The $100,000 Annual Fund goal for 2007 was exceeded by $9,765. The $150,000 goal for the new Academic Support Center was surpassed by $10,000. In order to raise the LSC Endowment fund to $2 million, the goal for the fall of 2007 was to reach $120,000. The actual amount raised ended up being $434,108.

Whittaker attributed the success to strong alumni relationships.

Academic Support Center dedication draws crowd

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.
Critic Editor

Although it had been operating for weeks, the new Academic Support Center finally had its ribbon cut on Sept. 28.

LSC faculty and administrators packed into the LAC hallway to watch as Gary Moore, chairman of the VSC Board of Trustees, and Patricia Burnham cut the yellow ribbon across the door of what is now officially the Dr. Robert A. Burnham Academic Support center.

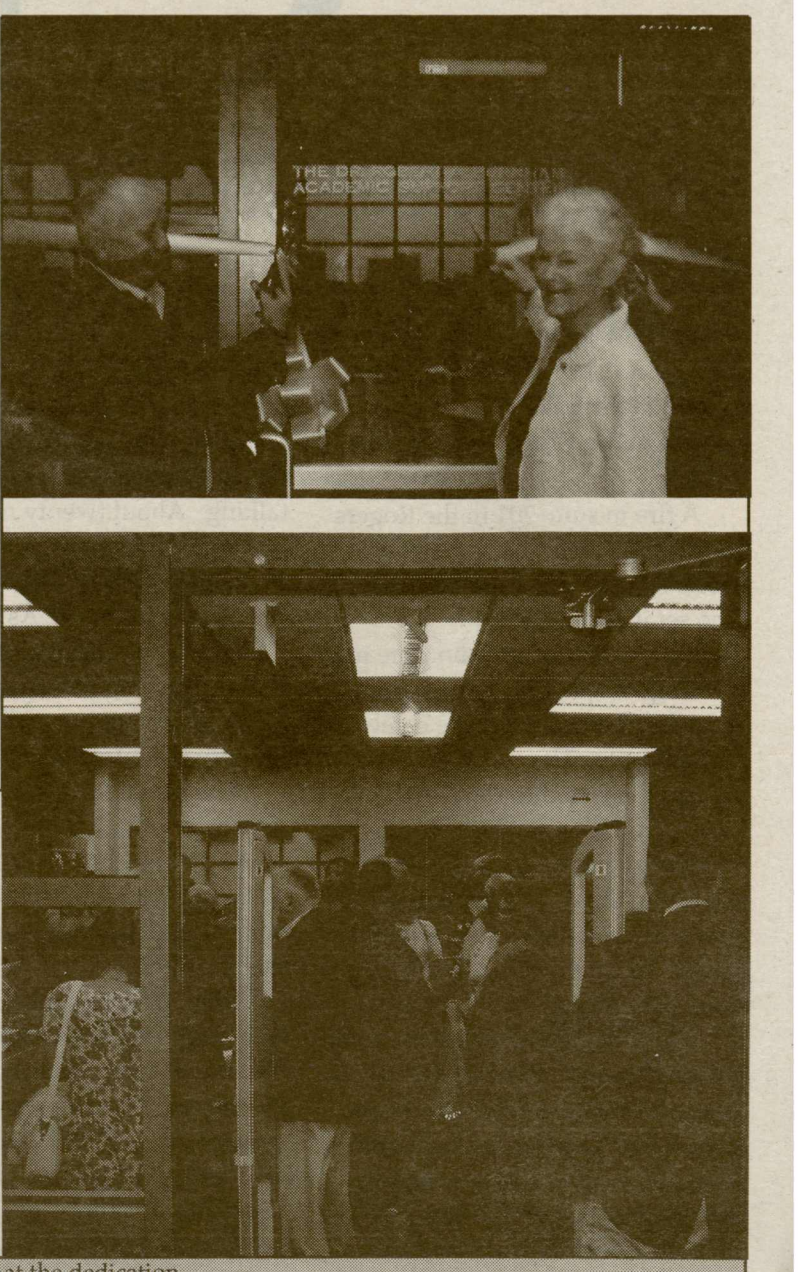
But who was this Dr. Robert Burnham? Burnham served for a short time as a temporary president for LSC from June of 1997 to June of 1998. Burnham first worked as a bricklayer and was the first in his family to attend college after discovering a passion for learning and educating others.

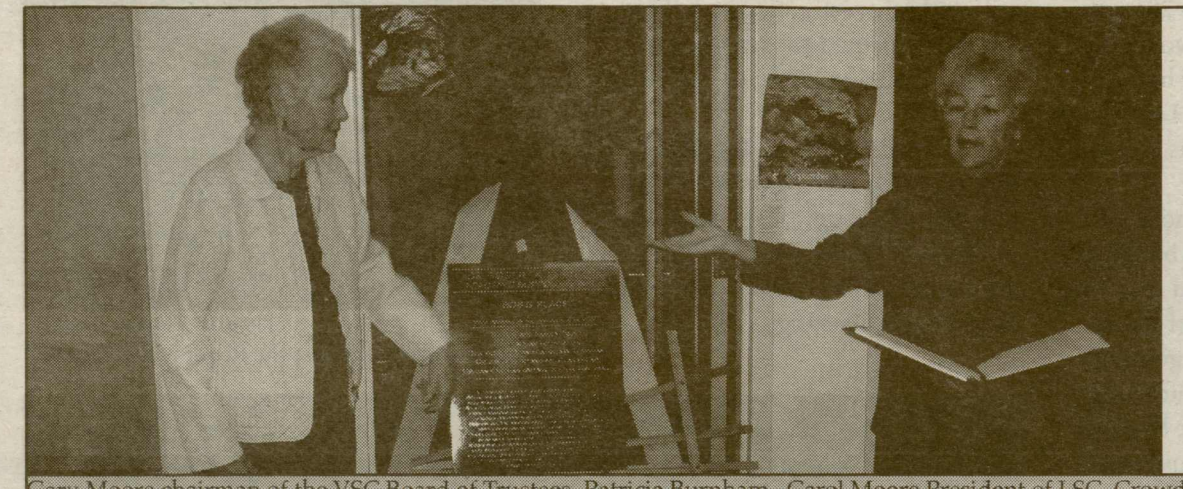
Patricia Burnham, Robert Burnham's widow, gave an emotional speech on her late husband's enthusiasm for learning and how he might feel about having the academic support center dedicated to him. "This is a place Bob would have been happy to support," Patricia Burnham said. "He was a very strong believer in public education."

Many people cooperated to fund the new support center. "I would like to take this moment to publicly thank the Valade Family Trust, the Windham Foundation, Dr. Patricia Burnham, alumnus Jay Hurd '72 and wife Clara Reed, and LSC Board of Visitor Jan Eastman and husband John Marshall," LSC President Carol Moore, said to the crowd.

John Kascenska, assistant dean of Academic Affairs and the project manager for the new support center, was also publicly thanked.

"I would be mistaken if I didn't tell you how special Bob thought the people here were," Burnham said.





Gary Moore chairman of the VSC Board of Trustees, Patricia Burnham , Carol Moore President of LSC, Crowd at the dedication.

Photos by Keith Whitcomb Jr.

LSC webmaster finds himself far from home

By Norman Johnson
Special to The Critic

Not only is Takuya "Tak" Shimamura a long way from home. The 31 year old webmaster for LSC is also light years from his original career plans.

Shimamura began with a desire to help the developing world when he attended Tokyo University of Agriculture. Soon his interest in exercise science, and his study of martial arts (he holds a 3rd. degree black belt in what we in the West call Kempo), led him to look to the United States for college.

Armed with a student visa, Shimamura spent a short time in Green Bay, Wisconsin working on his English before heading to Keene State College, New Hampshire. He planned to study computer applications in health science. His first few days of classes were nightmares.

"I couldn't understand anything the professors were saying," Shimamura said, shaking his head.

Within months, he worked his English comprehension up to 80 percent and things got easier. While at Keene State, Shimamura expanded his talent for Web design, helping fellow students on the side. Early on, he began to realize the exercise industry was becoming saturated, however. He also realized he needed a permanent resident visa if he was to continue.

A non-citizen must have a "green card" to live and work in the U. S., a process that can take five years. A person applying for permanent resident status must also have a sponsor, an employer. By 2002, Shimamura had taught himself enough computer science he was hired and sponsored by LSC as their first webmaster.

The webmaster is essentially the choreographer for the LSC website, part of a team. His duty is to take the team's work, put it together, and with his expertise make it operate efficiently—every day; difficult and demanding, because the internet is an animal changing daily.

"I will only be able to do this work for another fifteen years," Shimamura said. "It's so hard to keep up. It changes so quickly."

Takuya Shimamura LSC webmaster

Photo by Norman Johnson

"It almost scares me when I see what 10-year-old kids are doing these days," Shimamura said. Staying on top of what's happening on the Internet is a young person's job.

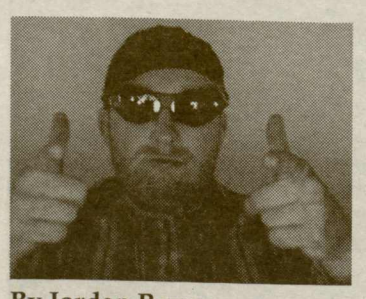
"You can't learn all this in a classroom, it happens too quickly. You learn some basics, the rest you teach yourself," Shimamura said.

Shimamura's objective as Web master at LSC, along with keeping the site up to date, is to attract students to the growing LSC campus. College websites are increasingly becoming admissions oriented to stay competitive. Something like 60 percent of LSC's admissions work is now online.

"My wife's parents haven't seen our daughter yet," Shimamura said. She was born in Lyndonville eighteen months ago.

Visa permit fees and air fares make family travel to Japan prohibitive. The green card program requires a special travel permit, which costs $350 per person. Shimamura has figured out a way around it, at least temporarily for now. Every week, they teleconference with grandparents using Skype, an Internet video conference/telephone service.

"It's amazing!" Shimamura said.



By Jordan Royer

Holy Sheet

Pornfectly Normal

I don't quite remember when I discovered pornography, but I was pretty young. I remember not being able to sleep one night so I went through all of the drawers in my house out of boredom and…oh my…jackpot!

I do remember that I was so young I hadn't yet discovered masturbation so I just looked through the pages of magazines with a peaked interest. Thinking back on it now, I don't even think they were real porno but just dirty comics, but my young mind took hold with complete interest. Needless to say I got caught and my mother made my father dispose of all of the magazines.

It wasn't until many years later that I again took an interest to porn, this time in video form. Gotta love the Web! For you, a little younger than I, you may have never experienced a dial-up connection, but that is all I had through most of my high school years. Talk about a long time downloading for a little bit of porn. I would stay up all night waiting for a 30-second clip to download, only to find that, of the 30-seconds, a measly five or 10 were actually worthwhile porn. Times have changed a little now with the improvements of connection speed and of course, with the availability of porn on DVD.

Until recently I kept my interest of porn to myself, finding it embarrassing to say the least. I am not a porn-aholic, or at least I don't like to think I am, but I do watch the occasional dirty flick. Now that I don't really care what anyone else thinks I am not afraid to admit my interests in watching sex.

You may ask, why? I will tell you, it is not just to have a visual while I masturbate; there is more to it than that. For one, it sometimes makes me laugh. I know what you are thinking…laugh? Why not watch a comedy. True. I don't put porn on if I want a good laugh, but it just sometimes happens. It makes me realize that sex can be fun and sometimes a laughing matter.

When I was young, sex was serious, but the older I get the more I realize about the joys of sex and humor is one thing I feel can make sex better. Another benefit of porn is the educational aspect. Watching porn gives me tips on improving my sex life, for example, different positions or places to have sex. Sometimes sex can become dull and boring but with the help of porn you can try new things to spice it up.

One way to do that is to watch porn with your partner. You may think I am crazy…well maybe I am, but I am not the only one. I decided my own opinion on porn wasn't enough so I asked a few people about porn. Believe it or not, I am not the only one that watches porn or watches with a partner. Some of the people I talked with agreed that it can be arousing and interesting to watch, especially with someone else. But I also found the other spectrum. I don't watch porn! Your choice, but more than half of the people I talked to (granted, it wasn't all that many) admitted to watching porn and it wasn't just the guys I talked to. Actually, more girls admitted to watching porn than guys, but I am sure that may change if I had asked more people.

Porn does more than speed up how long it takes to ejaculate when I stimulate myself. It strengthens my sex life. Call me crazy, but if watching porn makes me better in bed, I think I will have the occasional peek.

Tip of the Week- Tak to your partner about watching porn. It could greatly improve your sex life.

Position of the week- The Deep stick.

Smoking response

Dear Editor,

I am pretty much outraged over the idiotic response to this damn smoking ban. It IS, in fact, completely outrageous.

How many times is the argument "THIS IS AMERICA! Our rights are being violated, our freedoms restricted" going to be used? How many times are we going to have to be subjected to the idiotic arguments about "smokers rights"? Or, better yet, how can some people can be so ignorant to compare smoking- which, to remind some people, is in fact dangerous, and can kill second hand smokers- to something like food? That's like comparing a dog-owner that has their dog euthanized, to a certain football player who has theirs beaten/strangled/electrocuted etc. It makes no sense. Your rights aren't being violated- to violate them, the LSC Health and Safety Committee would have told smokers to stop smoking period. Now THAT is something I could have sympathized with. However, I cannot agree with someone who threatens to litter the campus with their cigarette butts. Or, better yet, someone who threatens to not listen to the changes and threatens that no one will listen- and some people threatening an uprising. Why so many threats from certain smokers? I know many smokers who don't have a problem with the new rules, so why do some of them have to act as if they're talking on the behalf of all smokers and make stupid threats? If you can take the time out of your busy schedule to send an email to the critic, you sure as hell can take the time to send one to anyone on the Health and Safety Committee. How can someone threaten to litter the campus, but then turn around and make the claim that they were willing to make a donation as an alumni before their rights were "restricted"? Does anyone else see the contradiction in that statement? To the smokers who don't mind the rules, I commend you. To the ones who threaten action and an uprising, don't be so juvenile: You do have every right to smoke, but it's not "restricting student freedoms" to have you smoke somewhere else. That's just a tiny argument.

Shane Beam

Library of the future

We'd like to say that libraries, and your LSC library in particular, are not just about "good, old-fashioned books."

Primarily, our goal is to provide services – both in person and online – that help you make the most of your time. We see a lot of students come and ask a question like, "I need information about Renaissance paintings." Through discussion with the student, we often find that what they ask for is not exactly what they need. For example, the student above just wanted information about a particular painter!

We are an online library! Our article databases offer free – as opposed to subscription – access to tens of thousands of full-text articles in popular and scholarly journals, newspapers, and magazines. We can help you find e-books of classic texts and books that are out of copyright. Online interlibrary loan requests give you access to electronic articles and print books from libraries all over the world.

There is a tremendous amount of information to be had online and search engines like Google are easy-to-use and readily accessible. But it can be difficult to find authoritative resources – online and in print – efficiently. Stop by the library. Find out how we can help you make the most of our mix of traditional and electronic resources that give you access today to the library of the future.

Janet Thorn,
Coordinator of Library Access Services
Vicki Litzinger,
Director of Library Instructional Technology
Garet Nelson,
Library Director
Pat Webster,
Cataloger/Reference Librarian

Letter Policy:

The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must include the author's phone number and address. The Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:

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LSC Box #7951
Lyndonville, Vt. 05851

Or e-mail letters to: keith.whitcomb@lyndonstate.edu

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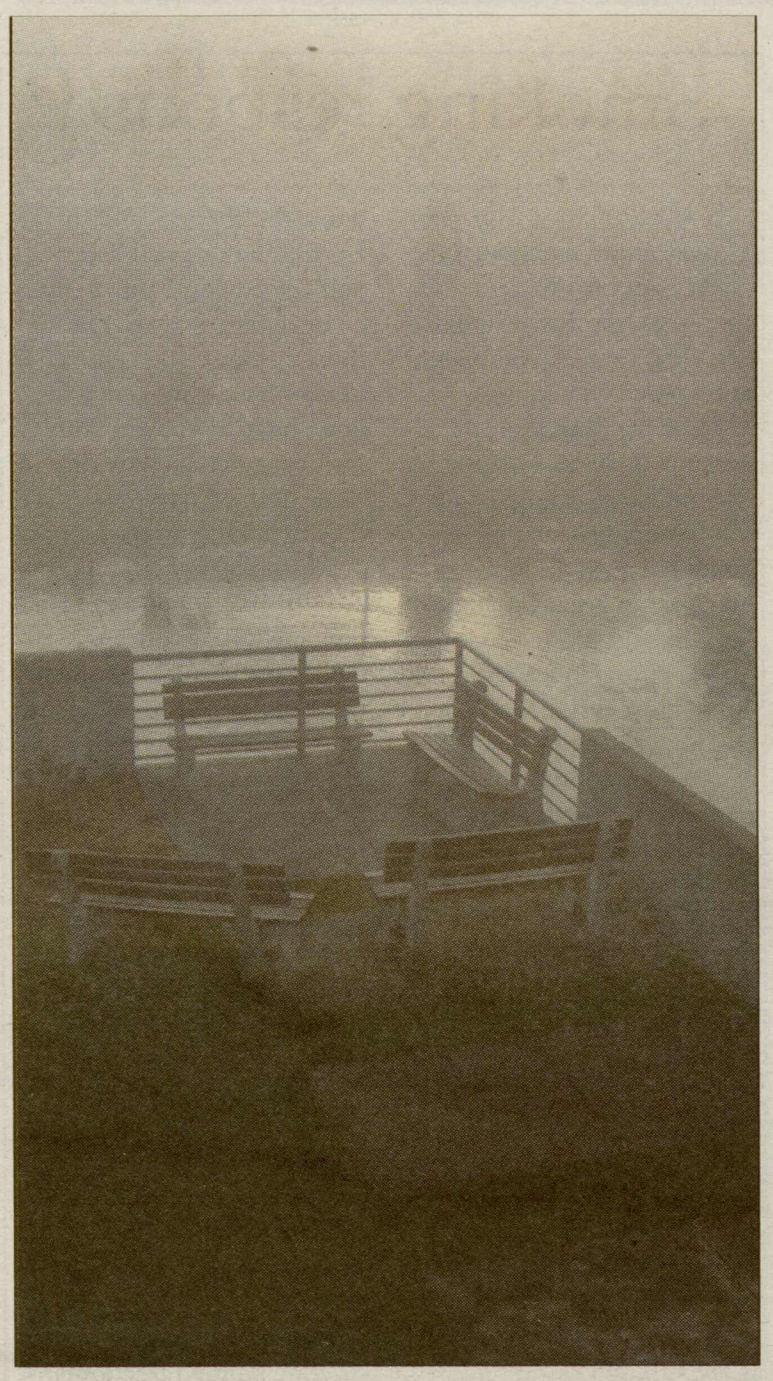
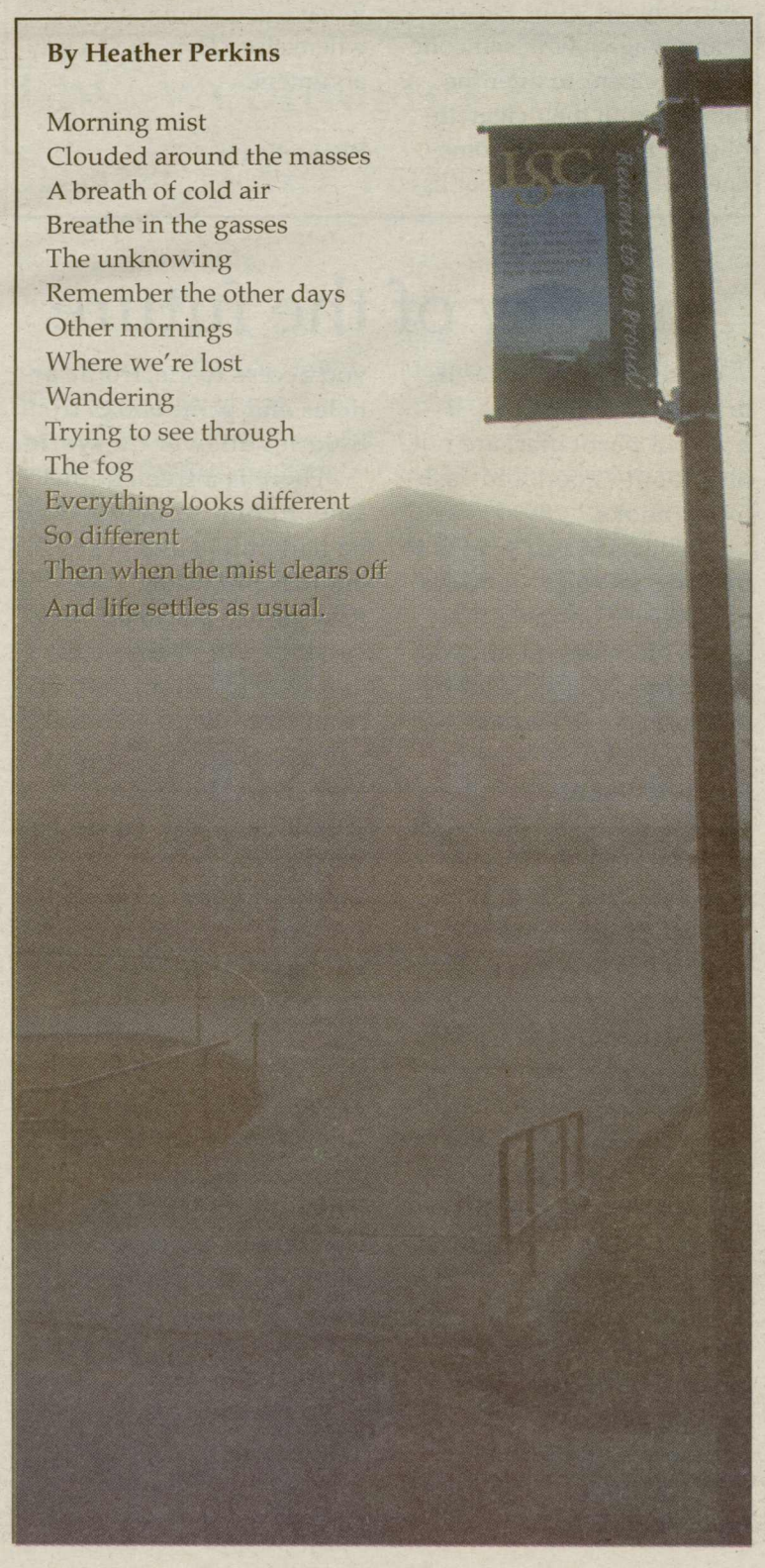
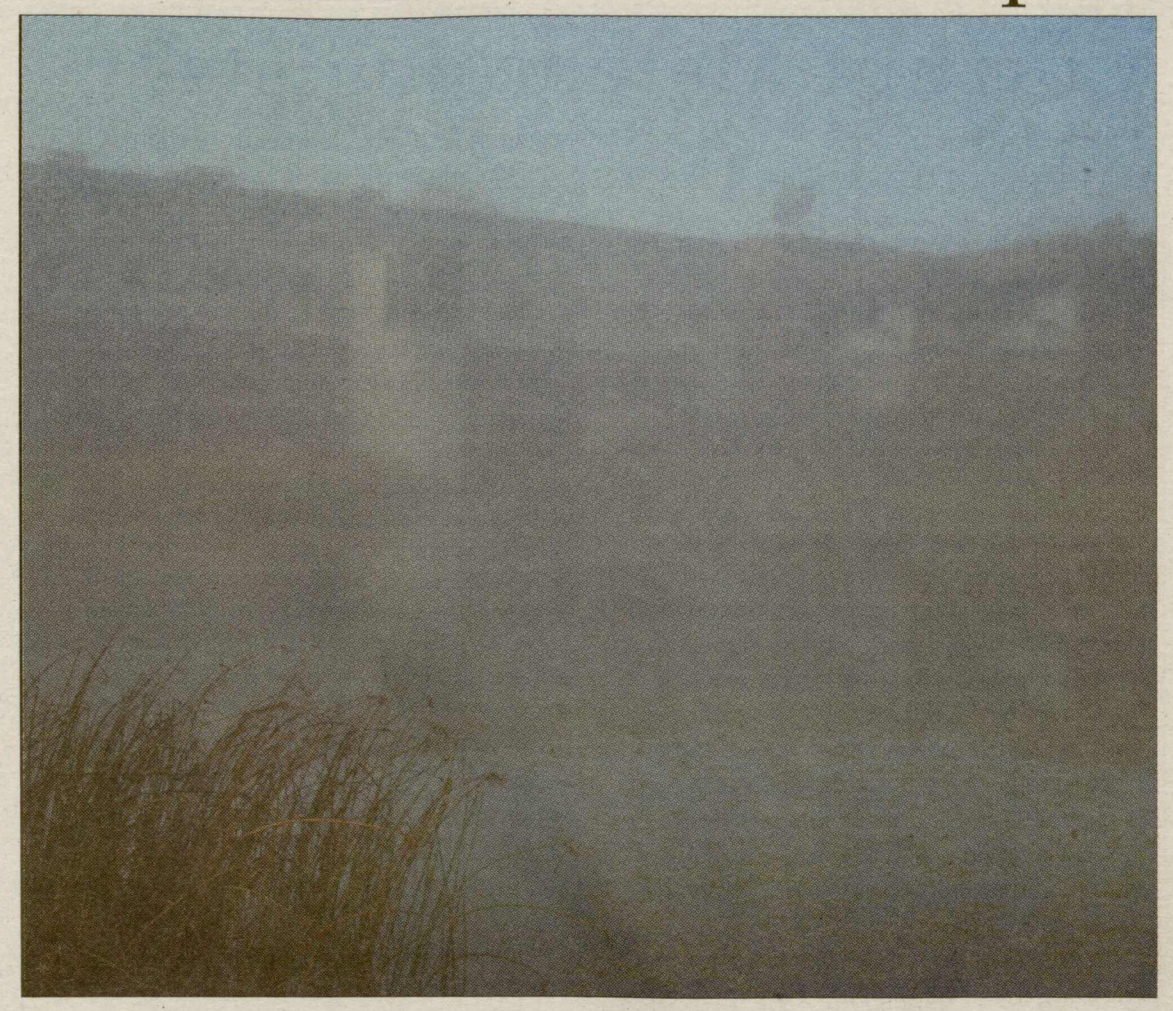
LSC undercover ...



By Heather Perkins

Morning mist
Clouded around the masses
A breath of cold air
Breathe in the gasses
The unknowing
Remember the other days
Other mornings
Where we're lost
Wandering
Trying to see through
The fog
Everything looks different
So different
Then when the mist clears off
And life settles as usual.

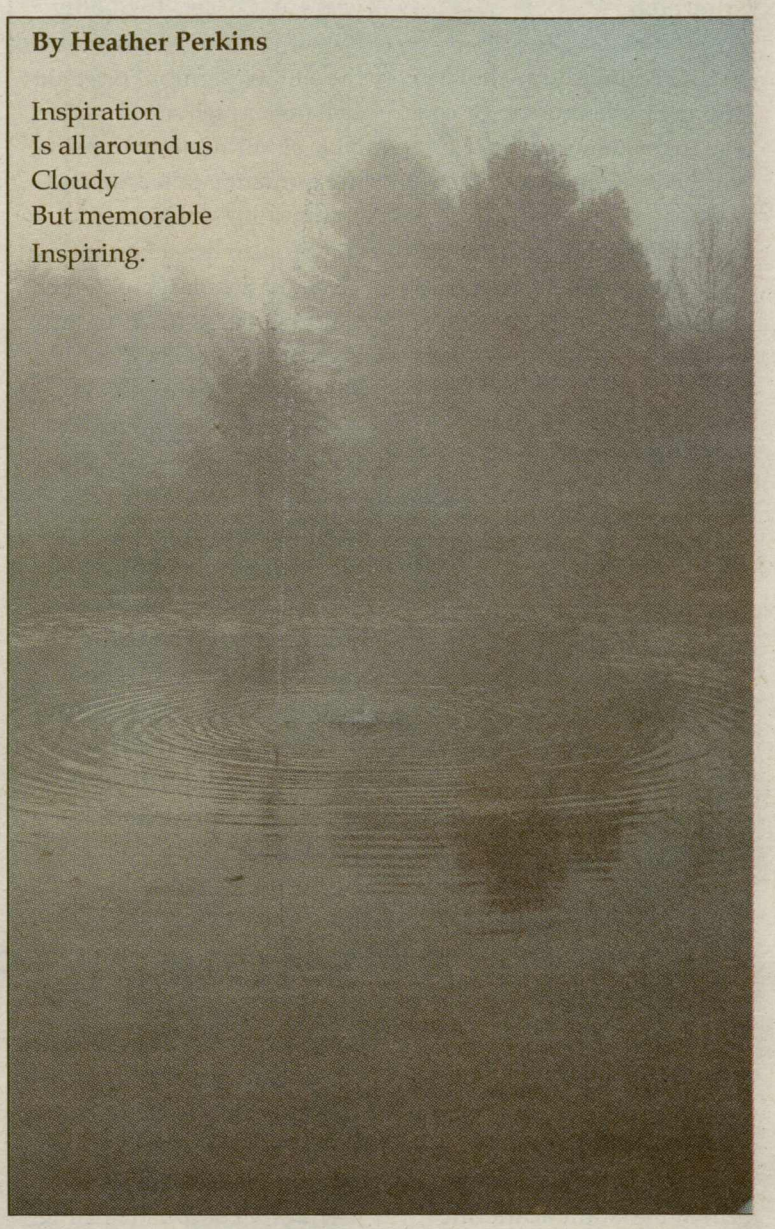




... ... of fog

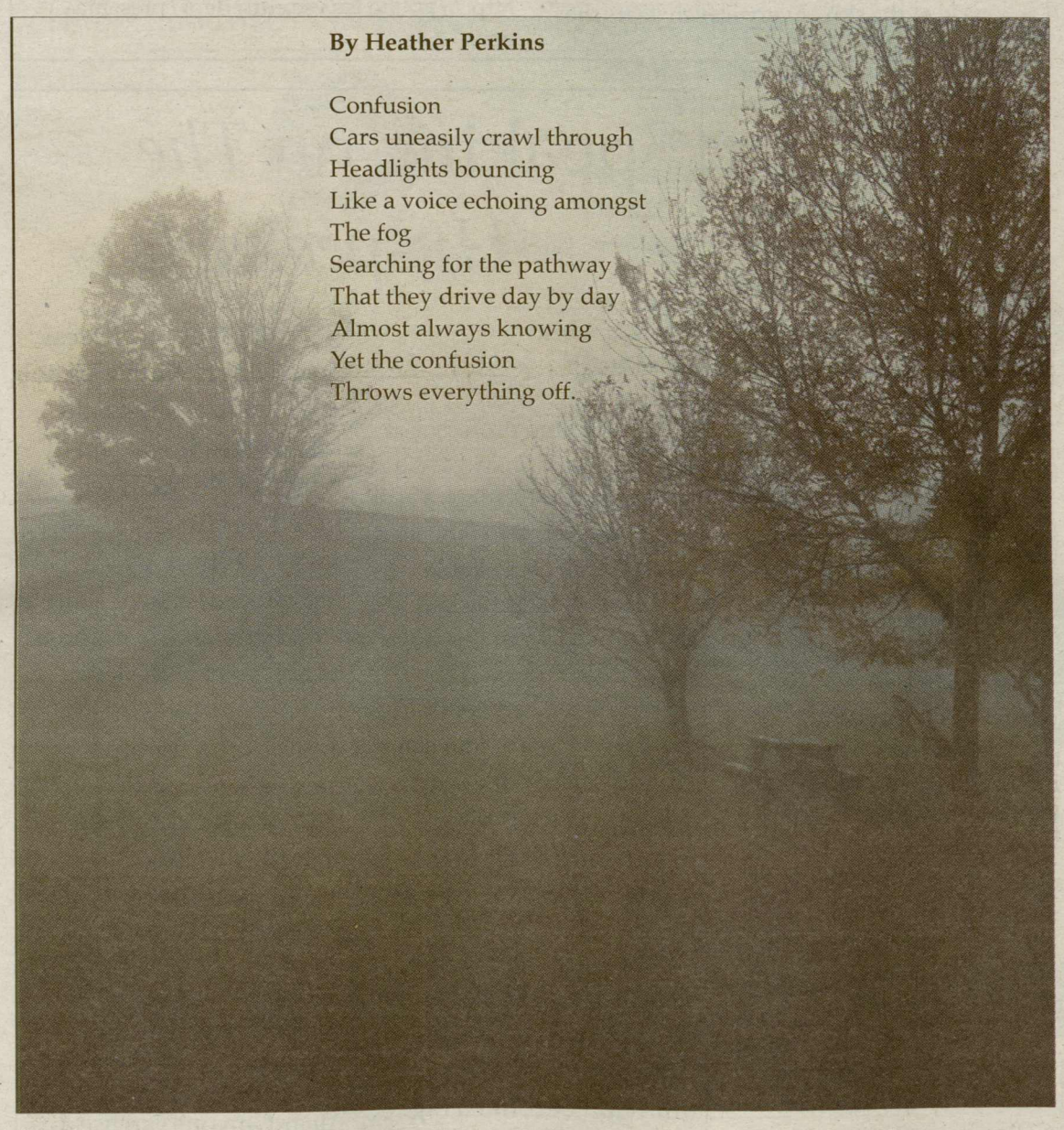
By Heather Perkins

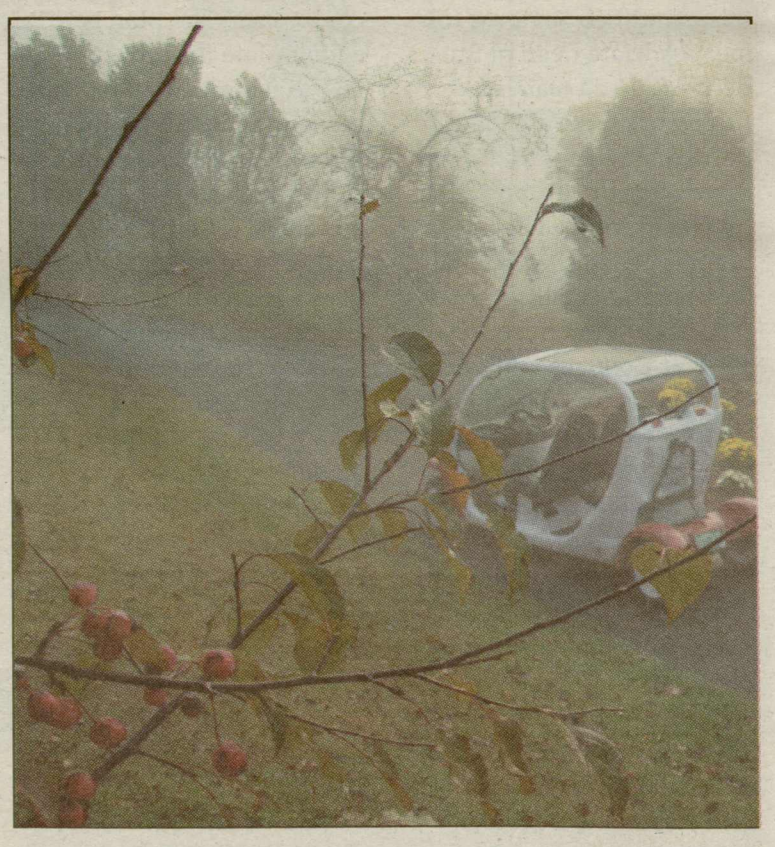
Inspiration
Is all around us
Cloudy
But memorable
Inspiring.



By Heather Perkins

Confusion
Cars uneasily crawl through
Headlights bouncing
Like a voice echoing amongst
The fog
Searching for the pathway
That they drive day by day
Almost always knowing
Yet the confusion
Throws everything off.





Photos by Joshua James Gervais

LSC Scholarships

Amanda Wozniak
Critic Staff

LSC Foundation scholarships provide money for college to residents of the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont.

LSC Foundation Scholarships are for $500 a year. There are three different types of these scholarships. The LSC Foundation NEK Scholarship is for first-year students. The student must live in the Northeast Kingdom in order to be eligible. They also have to have graduated from a Northeast kingdom high school showing academic potential and having participated in community service while in high school. The students that are accepted for the scholarship receive $250 per semester fro two years as long as they maintain a 2.5 GPA.

The LSC Foundation Adult Scholarship is for students 25 years and older. To qualify they must also be a resident of the NEK of Vermont or graduated from a high school in the NEK of Vermont demonstrating academic potential and community service.

LSC also has a Foundation Vermont Scholarship, which is for residents in Vermont with at least a 2.5 GPA and a eligible for financial aid.

Students may apply for these scholarships by completing the LSC General Scholarship Application between December and April 15. Applications will be available online on the LSC website for the 2008-09 school year in December. Approximately $3500 will be given for the NEK and adult scholars and $10500 for Vermont scholars.

Corrupt Meteorologists?

Thomas Borck
Critic Staff

Joe D'Aleo a former LSC faculty member from 1974 to 1980 gave a lecture on climate change in the Burke Mountain room Monday afternoon on October 1. After a short introduction by Nolan Atkins, a professor of meteorology at LSC, D'Aleo started his lecture.

D'Aleo's lecture showed that green house gases, carbon dioxide, methane, and water vapor, are not a major factor in our planet's global warming. He went on to show that there was skewed data, from manufactured models to just plain bad math. D'Aleo said, "I believe more in data, than models," referring to models created with skewed data by meteorologists looking for fame and money rather than the truth. Some of the bad data comes from what D'Aleo called Urban Heat Island, where the urban areas are warmer and have more of those green house gases. Using data collected only from those sites would skew the results and create the illusion of a catastrophe said D'Aleo.

D'Aleo does have an explanation to the warming that is happening. He explained it as a cycle of the sun. Every eleven years the sun goes through a temperature change, which is inversely related to cosmic rays as well as the decrease of volcanic activity causes the planet to warm up. To show this, D'Aleo showed graphs and data that displayed a cyclical warming and cooling of our planet with that of the sun's cycles.

D'Aleo in his conclusion said that with bad climate monitoring worldwide and the quest for fame over facts has corrupted the world view of what is actually happening. With the loss of 4,000 global climate monitoring stations since 1990 and stations that are still giving data are now enveloped in modern suburbia and the Urban Heat Island effect, there is a bias in the data reports. That bias has lead to extremely false senses of insecurity, D'Aleo uses the Al Gore scare for instance. Which D'Aleo considered so outrageous that he laughed as he pointed out the supposed flaws. D'Aleo said that there are better ways to get people to recycle instead of lying to them.

D'Aleo's presentation can be viewed at http://apollo.lsc.vsc.edu/dept/presentations/daleo/jd_global_warming.ppt and see other comments at http://apollo.lsc.vsc.edu/dept/presentations/daleo/.

Plan jumps towards action

Heather Perkins
Critic Staff

From Lyndon State College, thanks to John Kascenka, assistant academic dean, and Leo Sevigny, former associate dean of Student Affairs, a team of professors were allowed to participate in a five-day program after the proposal the two had sent in. The program is called the Greater Expectations Institute Action Plan of the American Association of Colleges and Universities. It was designed for campus leadership teams to find ways to increase student engagement and high achievement.

The Lyndon State team is comprised of five people: Kascenska; Elaine Razzano, English professor; Elizabeth Norris, assistant professor of fine and performing arts; Debra Bailin, director of Student Academic Development; and a student, Jason Smith.

There are 32 other participating institutions from both the U.S and Canada, and all teams are being assisted to get their "action plans" up and running.

From the program's Web site, it states that the group worked to "align institutional purposes, structures and practices as well as advance and assess...practical liberal education outcomes...such as critical inquiry, intercultural competence, and integrative learning."

The goal of the project from a Lyndon standpoint states that it is "to improve student success by fostering communication and collaboration through the development of a campus learning commons." The plan is to be a "template for developmental advising that allows the advisor and student to identify academic, social, professional, and personal goals and objectives; prioritize activities; and manage the student's individual educational experience."

The student outcomes have been outlined in the plan, "Liberally educated students will be able to:

-identify and utilize college pathways designed to enhance academic success

-demonstrate the skills expected of all college graduates through successful completion of the Vermont State College graduation standards.

-demonstrate mastery of components of the four Essential Learning Outcomes that are outlined in Liberal Education & America's Promise (LEAP) (AAC&U, 2007)."

The team has and is still taking actions to guide them to the attainment of the goal. Their steps are:

"-reconvene team to incorporate recommendations from critique of draft action plan.

-present draft plan to President and Dean's Council.

-present draft action plan to academic department chairpersons.

-identify areas of support and resistance.

-distribute LEAP documents and glossary of terms to college campus.

-establish and facilitate groups to discuss the principles outlined in the LEAP documents.

-align general education outcomes with The Essential Learning Outcomes.

-work with various college constituencies to identify appropriate working groups in identity and/or develop appropriate assessments with necessary."

One of the LSC's members, Razzano, said about the five-day that "it was great...really productive...really great input" and "it was interesting to be around people and listen to the similar problems of other colleges."

The key is liberal education, which defined by the Association of American Colleges and Universities as "the acquisition of "breadth of knowledge and capacity for lifelong learning; abilities to analyze, communicate, and integrate ideas; and effectiveness in dealing with values, relating to diverse individuals, and developing as individuals." Elaine says that it is a "great concept" and "what it's all about."

The plan is still heavily in works and often changing, but there is much working toward it being completed.

Speaking on *The Unspeakable*

Thomas Borck
Critic Staff

A part time professor at LSC, Denise Brown gave a book reading October 4 from her recently published book, The Unspeakable. The Library was packed tight and some of the students murmured, "This would have been better in the Theater" as a man came around and opened up the windows, giving a breath of fresh air to the large group as Brown readied her speech.

Brown started with a history of how she came to be a professional writer and how her cooking column had become a big hit. The Unspeakable is a book about the death her husband, the president of the Connecticut Lottery who was gunned down by a disgruntled employee in 1998, and the journey to recovery her family had to undertake. Matthew Beck, 35, killed two employees before he chased after and shot and killed Otho Brown, Denise Brown's husband. Beck then proceeded to kill himself.

She explained how the book was created as her only way to express her feelings. There was no revenge that she could take solace in, no sentence for the man who killed her husband. She said that there was a hope through the writing of her grief that she would be able to bare the loss and it would do a "small good." She used powerful words in a quiet voice.

She related an experience of when she was shopping with her children not many months after the shooting. She had found herself questioning the random passer byes, wondering if they were going to kill her or try and shot one of her children. Almost anyone can use a gun to kill. Struck by panic she fled with her children back home.

She talked of how the survivors had to find ways of healing; how she put her role as "a suburban mom" on hold and how she was stricken with paranoia and anxiety. She stressed the role of her children in her recovery and had light-heartily said "Nothing like a Teenager to put you in your place," easing the depressing atmosphere.

Fun Page

"Three's the charm! It's also the number of main characters worth mention on Charmed. Mmm, Charmed..."

Fizzy Fuzzy Long-as-Heck Random As Pancakes Word Find

C	P	X	M	Q	V	A	H	F	X	G	K	P	P	S	G	V	K	F	Q	U	S	U	N	V
F	C	I	K	Y	Z	C	S	L	G	R	F	L	Y	R	B	D	V	S	I	G	J	U	C	Z
E	J	N	U	A	W	X	B	J	O	S	M	M	J	T	D	I	E	E	P	S	K	F	C	K
A	I	S	K	Z	L	Y	M	O	B	I	U	F	U	W	Z	U	A	J	N	I	C	O	V	P
G	X	J	R	Y	X	E	D	M	Q	L	P	P	K	Y	D	U	P	Z	Y	G	Z	A	L	Y
Y	O	O	Y	M	B	R	G	O	J	W	Y	T	E	T	D	B	M	G	S	J	E	A	L	Q
C	W	M	I	D	A	Y	C	U	B	A	M	N	T	R	A	R	N	M	O	E	C	F	C	W
D	P	H	C	L	Z	H	O	R	M	D	W	B	I	H	F	E	L	F	V	I	K	U	U	S
E	N	A	L	G	M	W	Z	A	R	E	V	P	Y	N	E	L	O	D	N	C	O	S	F	L
F	I	E	R	C	V	A	V	K	G	H	V	Y	S	I	R	G	U	N	Y	J	W	G	T	Y
I	C	O	K	T	W	S	R	O	S	V	H	X	L	J	N	P	A	O	W	H	B	J	O	M
N	B	M	H	T	H	E	S	A	U	R	U	S	V	P	F	R	K	M	U	M	Z	S	M	C
I	K	M	O	C	V	V	P	C	K	Z	I	H	S	W	Y	G	L	O	E	S	S	C	A	G
T	Y	C	W	R	E	P	U	G	N	A	N	T	R	T	O	I	Y	T	H	F	L	U	T	C
I	W	R	Y	B	X	I	D	Y	P	O	T	A	T	O	M	F	J	K	R	A	P	B	O	T
V	G	T	U	N	I	F	O	R	M	I	T	A	R	I	A	N	I	S	M	E	Z	A	F	P
E	A	U	I	H	Y	P	O	C	H	O	N	D	R	I	A	C	L	I	B	A	D	G	E	R

Word List

Uniformitarianism Fiscal Badger Tyrannical Superfluous Repugnant Vengeful The game Cellar door Scuba Thesaurus Hypochondriac Definitive Legume Potato Tomato

Puzzles Generated by Overlord of Fun, Eric Downing. For complaints about my fun page, please deposit official complaint form in nearest waste receptacle.

Cross Word Clues

DOWN

1. Kiss me, I'm _____.
2. Not two or too.
3. Old World War II German machine gun.
4. Not she.
5. Opposite of out.
6. Hornets build these.
10. Often stubbed.
13. Expert.
17. Same as 17 across.
19. Old Ben
20. Main artery of the body.
22. B& without the -ed.
23. One atop a mount.
24. Hot steam remedial place.
25. One result of sex.
28. French for "No."
33. Not "Lo"
34. Electr__
36. Just __ it!

ACROSS

3. Often bumped on tables and chairs.
7. To poke.
11. Same as 33 down.
12. Primate.
15. What the heck __ this?
16. Like a jar or vase enclosed.
17. Same as 17 down.
18. A vagrant without a story.
21. To __ or not to __.
24. Strapping sticks to one's feet and propelling oneself downhill.
26. When a door is not a door, it's a___
30. An insect Woody Allen portrayed
31. There is no try.
32. Improvise or jury-rig.
35. A port in Yemen on the mouth Red Sea.
37. What happens to your boat when a cannonball hits its hull.
38. Overl__d of Fun

LAST WEEK'S WORD FIND ANSWER

U	Q	Y	O	D	A	H	U	N	G	O	V	E	R	G	W	C
E	A	H	W	A	J	V	V	S	K	K	K	P	W	S	G	N
P	M	U	T	Y	M	T	L	Q	S	G	J	H	O	G	F	L
C	P	W	G	O	N	O	C	O	N	D	O	M	K	C	B	E
I	H	G	U	Z	K	H	L	K	L	L	V	R	U	S	T	Q
F	F	U	K	A	P	K	M	G	H	K	O	S	X	A	R	L
D	P	E	F	K	L	K	Z	X	W	W	G	G	M	M	I	R
M	Q	F	D	A	A	G	O	E	E	O	W	M	S	C	F	B
T	X	U	J	B	Y	C	X	M	V	H	O	R	L	H	W	L
Z	A	E	F	T	I	F	O	R	G	O	T	P	E	N	D	P
V	Q	H	W	D	N	H	T	H	R	H	N	G	P	F	T	U
S	X	B	F	X	G	Z	T	W	N	A	I	V	T	W	G	I
X	F	R	A	D	H	U	E	W	L	S	Y	V	I	M	E	S
O	G	X	A	M	A	N	O	D	C	E	F	Q	N	Q	B	F
Y	B	S	U	L	L	O	S	T	B	O	O	K	J	L	E	I
W	T	L	K	L	O	U	D	M	U	S	I	C	P	B	U	X
H	A	C	C	O	M	P	U	T	E	R	C	R	A	S	H	R

The deconstruction of the Fun Page brought to you by the Overlord of fun, yet also collaborated with Joshua James Gervais. I apologize for the lack of weather. I've had bad experiences with forgetting days or something, HOROCSCOPES COMING SOON!

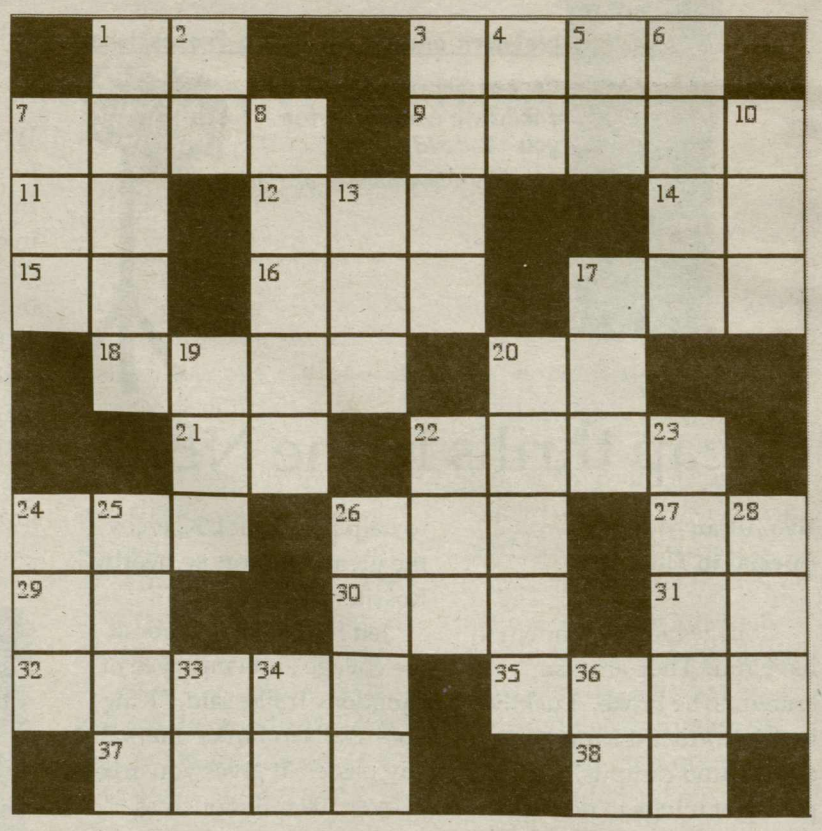
Sudoku SCRAMBLE!

5	9	7	8	6	3	1	2	4
1	3	8	2	7	4	9	5	6
6	2	4	1	5	9	7	3	8
8	1	9	6	4	5	2	7	3
3	5	6	7	1	2	4	8	9
7	4	2	9	3	8	5	6	1
2	6	3	4	9	7	8	1	5
4	7	5	3	8	1	6	9	2
9	8	1	5	2	6	3	4	7

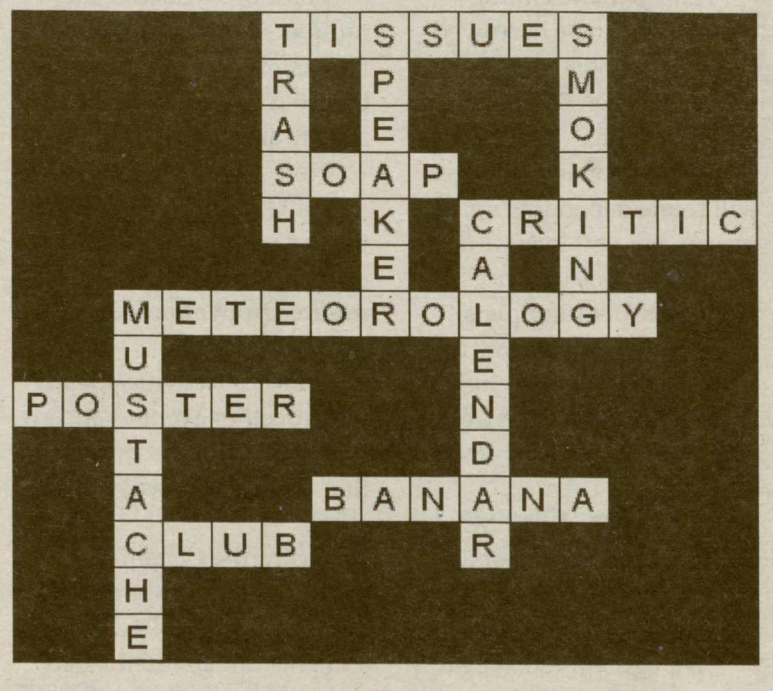
DIRECTIONS:

1. Finish Reading the last page of this newspaper.
2. Carefully cut out each the nine 3x3 sudoku squares on the puzzle above. Use safety scissors.
3. Scramble the nine 3x3 squares.
4. Now put one of the 3x3 squares down. Do not use the one with 6 in the upper left-hand corner. This will be your center square. Do not cut it further.
5. Cut all the other 3x3 squares into individual numbers.
6. Solve your new puzzle.
7. Realize that this is too easy and cut up the 3x3 square and make your own puzzles by randomly placing squares.

Absolutely Irrelevant Cross Word



LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWER:



Lyndon State's widening world of sports

By Lauren Potter
Special to The Critic

The LSC Athletics Web site lists of eleven varsity sports offered on campus. Those eleven sports represent almost 13 percent of Lyndon's 1,350 person student body, with about 170 varsity athletes.

This number is up from last years, which was up from the 2005-2006 school year. Lyndon State is expanding. The women's volleyball team is tearing it up in its second season, and men's lacrosse will take the field this spring for the first time since the early 1980s.

The volleyball team is playing its heart out this season. According to captain Erica Kelleher, it's been well worth it. The team of nine has seen a huge improvement since last season.

"We're a competitive team for being a second-year program," Kelleher said. "We're proud of ourselves." As they should be – the ladies hold the only winning record on campus so far this fall."

A big help for the volleyball team this season was stability, Kelleher said. Their coach, Sean Fischer, is returning from last year, as are seven players.

Even though the lacrosse season is still a few months away, Athletic Director Chris Ummer seems pleased with the prospect of the spring. "The numbers [of prospective players] are very strong, and [coach Tierney] seems pretty pleased with the talent level."

Coach Tim Tierney was a four year starter for the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He was also a two-time MVP and captain; he knows what to look for.

So what do the additional sports teams mean for LSC other than more games to watch and more chances to participate? The combined start up costs for the new sports meant about $18,000 out of the athletics budget. There will also be a meeting later this week to discuss the possibility of expanding and revamping outdoor facilities to accommodate the growing athletic family.

The growth hasn't been capped yet. There has been talk inside LSC, and with the North Atlantic Conference, about possibly – someday – adding either a men's golf team or women's field hockey team. As far as a football team in the near future, though, Ummer said "Probably not."

Cheap thrills in the NEK

By Gillian Moore
Special to The Critic

College kids are known to have fun. They are also known to be broke. Luckily, in the Northeast Kingdom and around campus, there are plenty of things to do that can keep them occupied without breaking the bank.

Thanks to the Outing Club, gear can be borrowed from the school on Tuesday nights between 7-9 during the club's meetings.

"Our list of available gear will rotate depending on the season, but will include at the start: snowshoes, ice axes, crampons, pots and pans, sleeping pads, and tents and tarps," Kelly Rossiter, instructor of Recreation Resource and Ski Resort Management, said.

Ansel Gifford, an LSC student who has a work-study position in the department, is in charge of the rentals.

"Though limited, we are excited to offer what we can to help people at LSC enjoy the great outdoors so nearby," Rossiter said.

Jeff Scarpino, a senior at the college and employee of Kingdom Trails, said, "Kingdom Trails in Burke offers $10 day passes. It gives you access to over 100 miles of cross country and downhill mountain bike trails."

For those who love the outdoors, the campus also offers tennis courts, a racquetball court, running trails, and a skate area.

Now that the leaves are peaking, driving or hiking to the top of Burke Mountain is only $3, and offers views of the area from almost 3,300 feet.

Campus Activities Board puts together events, concerts, and movies for the campus that are almost always free of charge.

Lastly, the Catamount Arts Center in St. Johnsbury plays movies every week, which students can attend for free.

Students can't seem to get enough sleep under college pressures

By Gwen Cook
Special to The Critic

A lot of students at LSC can relate to this statement by freshman Sonja Hand, "I don't get enough sleep anymore."

Like Hand, many students believe that a full night's rest is optional. She, like others, opts instead to get a few hours sleep here or there and crash on the weekends. While this may actually work for some, for others like Hand this can lead to falling asleep in class or getting sick.

"I procrastinate and wait until 12 to do my homework, so I'm going to bed at like two and getting up at eight. I end up dosing off in class. It's bad," Hand said.

According to Abby Provost, a Registered Nurse who works at the Brown House, an average of eight hours of sleep is needed per night. She also goes on to say that it is always best to listen to what one's body tells him or her. If they feel sluggish and/or have a hard time concentrating, they probably aren't getting an adequate amount of sleep. Eating healthy and getting proper and regular exercise is also crucial in staying healthy and happy.

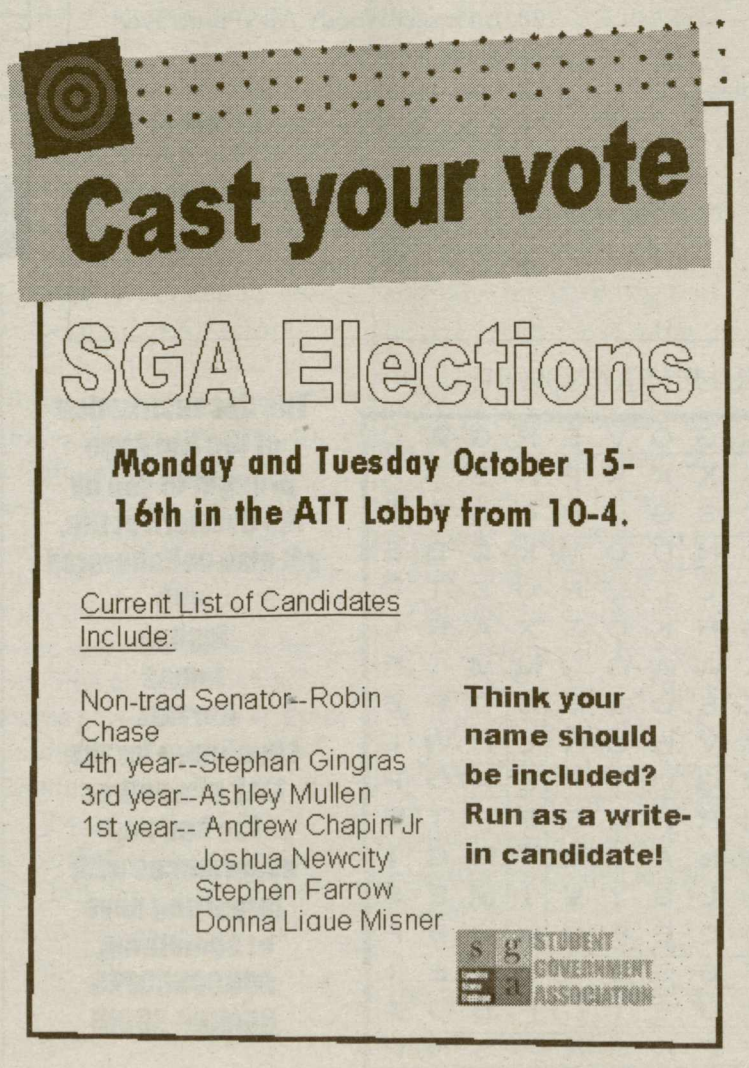
"Napping is a good thing to do because it helps a person to maintain energy throughout the day," Provost said. However, naps are no substitute for getting an adequate amount of sleep.

"I actually never get the chance to take a nap because of my class schedule. I end up feeling guilty when I have homework to do," Hand said.

Some may think that it is ok to shirk on proper sleep during the week because they can always sleep in on the weekends. "Bad idea," Provost said. "Your body must stay on a schedule or routine."

For example, if you go to bed at 11 p.m. and get up at 7 a.m., then you should do that everyday. This will allow your body to become accustomed to this and maximize the time you are sleeping.

Provost herself is guilty of difficult sleeping routines. She works two 12-hour night shifts at the Newport Hospital as well as her working during the day at the Brown House the rest of the week. She understands that sometimes it is hard to have a sleep routine.



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For anyone interested in covering stories, please e-mail Keith at: keith.whitcomb@lyndonstate.edu or Tabitha at: tabitha.fitzgerald@lyndonstate.edu

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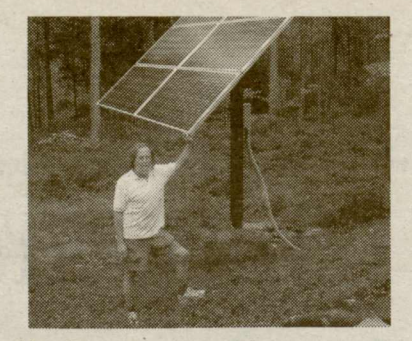


Alan Boye is constructing a straw bail house. Read and see if it keeps the the Big Bad Wolf out on page 6.

No leads on who set fire in Rogers

By Ben Holbrook
Special to The Critic

A lack of evidence and potential leads is slowing down the investigation into the fire set in the Rogers dormatory.

Early in the morning on October 11, someone attempted to force their way into Mat DiPirro's room. After the intruders left the suite DiPirrio tried to wake up his roommate and then left the room where he saw and smelled smoke in the suite and noticed the smoldering newspapers next to the sink. DiPirrio grabbed the newspapers and dragged them into the sink where he doused them with water.

The police won't be involved in the investigation and therefore it will not be a criminal offense, Jonathan Davis, interim associate dean of Student Affairs said. Multiple fire alarms were pulled the night the fire was started. The alarms were not pulled due to the fire, Davis said.

Since there is an issue of privacy in regards to the people involved, the names of the people who were involved with the fire would not be released, Davis said.

The school would announce to the community if and when those involved were found and what disciplinary actions would take place, Davis said.

The people in charge of the investigation are Jonathan Davis, George Hacking, and the RHD's

The biggest concern is not as much about the fire, but instead the numerous false alarms that have been happening. Every time a fire alarm is pulled, the Lyndonville Fire Department has to respond.

"It becomes a never cry wolf situation," Davis said. Another concern is that if there continue to be false alarms then students will stop evacuating

When a fire alarm is pulled, it releases an invisible ink that comes in a variety of colors and is more of powder than ink. You won't necessarily be able to see the ink but anywhere that you touch your body the ink will spread, Davis said.

The ink is a deterrent to keep people from pulling false alarms. "Pulling a fire alarm is not harmless," Davis said.

Photo by Keith Whitcomb Jr.

Student volunteers portray victims in a disaster drill while firefighters administer mock treatment for smoke inhalation. The drill was part of a course called responding to pyschological trauma. Students from the English department and human services majors interviewed and provided support for other students playing victims

Firefighters, students, and faculty participate in disaster drill

By Tabitha Fitzgerald
Managing Editor

Emergency crews rushed to LSC to respond to a boiler fire in Wheelock Residence Hall. Two students were killed and many more were injured by the disaster. Fire and emergency rescue crews were on the scene to help with the disaster and assist the wounded.

At least this was the scenario presented to professor Margaret Sherrer and professor Dan Williams's Responding to Psychological Trauma class last Saturday.

The disaster drill was arranged for the class, but it was a community event. Besides the five journalism majors and the 16 human service majors that participated in the class, Sherrer estimated that there were about 30 other student volunteers involved. LSC officials, Public Safety. The Saint Johnsbury Fire Department, Lyndon Rescue and the Red Cross all participated in the drill as well. "It was a fairly big production," Sherrer said.

The point of the drill was to allow students from the psychological trauma class to apply the knowledge that they learned in the course to a real situation. The human service majors' role was to support the victims and seal with the psychological trauma that the victims

"The whole day was so real it was scary. You know it is fake but you look at the situation and then look at everything going on around you and it is real," Krystal Csiki, a volunteer victim said.

suffered. The journalists were trying to interview these same victims to get the 'timely story' about what happened. "I think it was beneficial to both groups," Sherrer said. The human service majors were able to see what it was like to deal with victims while the reporters experienced firsthand the frustration in interviewing people that were not willing, or ready to talk.

Besides students getting hands on experience, other groups benefited from the project. "I think it was good for the emergency response units too. They have to do so many drills a year and it was good to work with them," Sherrer said. George Hacking, Director of Public Safety agreed with her. The drill allowed for the LSC community to work with other emergency response teams that they don't have to deal with on a regular basis. It was beneficial to have the practice and allow the LSC team to get familiar with other groups that they would be working with in a situation like the one presented at the drill, said Hacking.

School officials even had a chance to get some disaster practice in. John Kascenska, Associate Dean of Student Affairs, held a press conference to inform the public and answer any questions that reporters or community members had. It was also at this conference that he announced the two student deaths that were a result of this tragedy.

"It was quite realistic," Mary Wheeler, an LSC senior, said. Wheeler participated in the event through the class. "I was a reporter. My job was to cover the event and get information about what happened. It was kind of hard, some of the people didn't want to talk."

Krystal Csiki, an LSC Junior who was a volunteer victim said, "The whole day was so real it was scary. You know it is fake but you look at the situation and then look at everything going on around you and it is real." The disaster drill was unlike a fire drill where student walk calmly out of the building to a designated area. "There were people playing dead and severely injured. It was chaotic and confusing," she said.

I thought the event went very well," Hacking said. "It gave us a chance to be exposed to this type of event and see the pitfalls involved in responding to a fire or an emergency situation. It gives us a chance to work through that atmosphere. Hacking also said that things didn't go perfect but the drill made the people participating see the value of having a plan, what things needed to be improved upon and what it was like to work with outside agencies.

Sherrer said that she and Williams plan on continuing the course in future semesters. They hope to make the class worth three credits instead of just one, as it was this semester. The plan is to incorporate other trauma scenarios and make the disaster drill a regular thing. Sherrer said that she has heard positive things about the class and the drill so far. Though Student Life has told her they have had no complaints, she is hoping to perform the drill somewhere where it won't "interfere with student living quarters," the next time. She also hopes that there will be more student volunteers for the next drill. "It would be good if we could get more trained actors involved. It is hard to stay in this kind of character for a few hours and having trained actors that can stay in character helps keep others in character too."

Students from the class have added their opinions on what should be done in future classes. Sherrer said it is always a challenge to teach a new class especially when you are running it with a teacher that has a different professional background than you do. But she said that the experience has been a good one.

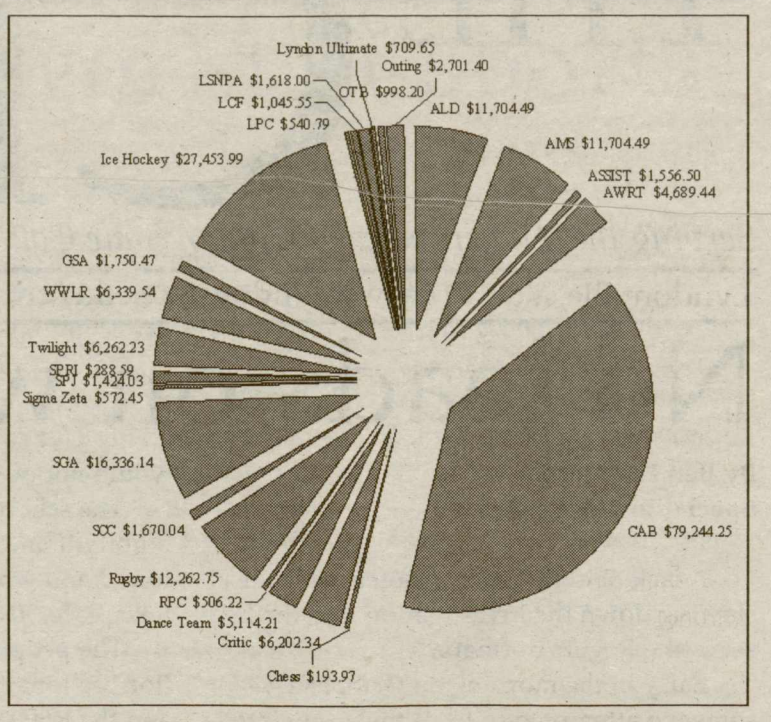
Sherrer expressed her gratitude to the brave students" that took this new class, and to the students that volunteered to help with the project. Both she and Hacking expressed their thanks to the emergency response units that participated in the event allowing for a very realistic atmosphere. Sherrer is enthusiastic about the future of the course.

Club budgets

By Heather Perkins
Critic Staff

To the right is the most up-to-date record of the club budgets. The projected budget total was $190,000.00. The requested total of all the clubs and organizations was $200,271.62. The pie chart below is taking into account the 5.38 percent freeze. This total amount of money is approximately $198,612.79.

There are twenty five clubs. CAB, the largest section received, with the freeze, $79,244.25. Their money goes towards large and small venues, family weekend, opening weeks, bus trips, NACA Conference, movies, photocopies, advertising, Catamount Arts, programming supplies, and winter weekend.



Student Life suffers shortages of RA's

By Andrew Koch
and Catherine Story

The Department of Student Life is facing a serious shortage of resident assistants this semester, following several resignations, firings and withdrawals.

According to Dean of Residential Life Jonathan Davis, the department started the year with a shortage following the withdrawal of one RA, along with another who had to attend to family issues at home. This was before several RAs were fired because of an underage drinking incident just before the start of the semester.

"The Department of Student Life always has issues recruiting and retaining staff," Davis said, adding that there's a big shortage of staff this year specifically. On the bright side, however, Davis says that "a good group of candidates" is being interviewed to fill the shortage.

"We're getting ready to hire several people," Davis said.

Davis also expressed his gratitude to the RAs that remain on staff.

"I'd like to thank the current staff for their hard work. They're taking on additional duties, picking up the slack. We can't thank them enough," Davis said. "We appreciate what they're doing in the face of the staff shortage."

David Rossignol was the only RA willing to discuss his former job. He was fired earlier this semester from the RA position for reasons he would not specify. He admitted that the school had the right to fire him.

With free room and board and a single dorm, the size of the average two person dorm room, being an RA has its' advantages. "There is always a conflict with the RA position," Rossignol said. "School comes first" he said "but if a student needs you, you need to help." Rossignol also said that being woken up late at night was normal. "If a student comes knocking on your door at 2 a.m. it doesn't matter if you have a test at 8 a.m., you have to help."

Rossignol was wary of questions, saying, "There are confidential contracts that we sign." He also said, "It is so loosely defined that I wouldn't dare to comment further without a lawyer."

After Rossignol was fired he had to pay the difference in his room and board. He does not know how much that will be yet. The school will deduct the amount he saved in the time he worked for them. Rossignol was fired Sept. 20. He moved out of his RA dorm room two days later.

Mallorie Cronkite quit the position of RA in the Rogers dorms recently although she would not comment on any aspect of the job.

Students are calling the Crevecoeur dorms "Club Crev". "The parties go from 6 p.m. until 4 a.m. the next morning," said Andrew Glynn a resident of the RA free fourth floor sweet in Arnold, "And that's just Monday through Friday," he said.

An anonymous source said that current and former RAs are being reminded that they should not spread "slander".

What are you agreeing to?

By Amanda Wozniak
Critic Staff

Reasonable belief that one or more of the rules listed in the VSC Computing Telecommunications Technology Condition of Use Policy are being violated allows VSC the right to monitor students', employees' or other users' internet access. Violations of the rules can also lead to use of the VSCnet being revoked, expulsion if a student or termination if employed by LSC.

"I think it prevents some unauthorized use, but not everything. Generally people follow the policy, but there are exceptions," said Mike Dente, Assistant Chief Technology Officer.

People in the LSC community access the internet on campus everyday without knowing these rules. The use policy is to prevent the misuse of the computers and internet within VSC. Upon logging onto a computer within the 24 hour lab located on the third floor of LAC a popup window appears. By clicking on "OK" the person is agreeing to the terms and conditions of this policy. Many students said they had never read this policy including senior, Shandi Barclay, whom admitted to never having read the policy while still clicking "OK". The policy is not available for viewing with a direct link from the popup window. It is printed in employee and student handbooks. Information Technology can also provide people with a copy.

The VSCnet use policy lists 24 rules which users must comply with. "When someone breaks the rules, we follow the college judicial process or the normal disciplinary rules for faculty and staff." said Dente. Some of the rules include "intentionally and substantively inferring with the freedom of expression of others on VSC premises," or "connecting a computer to VSCnet without prior permission of the local computing authority" (IT department representative). Others explain tampering with cables or computers or using someone else's log in name. It also states in the policy that only minimal use of the VSCnet for recreation and entertainment purposes are permitted.

If the rules stated within the policy are broken by any individual the VSC reserves the right to "track, monitor or access electronic mail or other files in accordance with this policy." Next time you click OK you may want t o think about what you do next.

Letter Policy:
The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must include the author's phone number and address. The Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:

The Critic
LSC Box #7951
Lyndonville, Vt. 05851

Or e-mail letters to: keith.whitcomb@lyndonstate.edu

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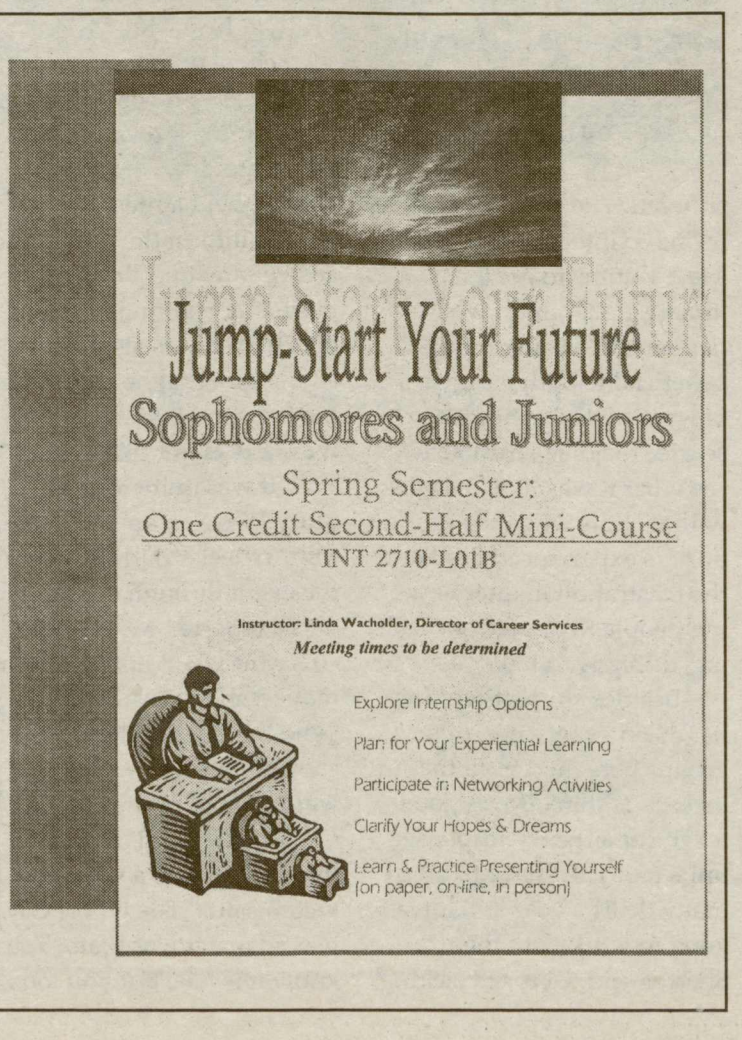


New executive board plans to tackle smoking ban

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.
Critic Editor

After seven weeks, the Student Government Association finally has an Executive Board and a Senate.

At the top of both the president's and vice president's agendas is the new smoking ban going into effect on Jan. 1. A number of students who signed their petitions made it clear that they did not support the ban that would require smokers to light up in the parking lot instead of other places on campus.

Jon Maciel, the newly elected SGA president, and Michael Hannan, the new SGA vice president, have slightly different views on how the ban should be changed.

Maciel would like to see the creation of designated smoking areas rather than move the smoking population of the school out into the parking lot. "I think if we could do that, without moving people to the parking lots, it would be good for everybody," Maciel said.

Hannan was happy with the smoking policy that is currently in effect. "I think it should just go back to the old policy," Hannan said. "I think it should have been enforced slightly more."

Maciel also addressed concerns of there potentially being more acts of vandalism in the parking lots, due to the increased amount of people that would frequent them under the new policy.

Another thing on Maciel's to-do list was to set up a program with Information Technology that would allow students to have hardware problems fixed on their computers. Currently, IT only handles software, citing liability, Maciel said. The idea is that students would make a deposit with IT who would then send their computer to local businesses to get whatever hardware problems they had fixed. The money would come out of the deposit and anything unspent would be returned to the student, Maciel said.

With 232 votes cast, 16.5 percent of the LSC student body voted. For the votes to count, it needed at least 10 percent. "I'd say that's about average, but it's a little down from last year," Kate Murphy, SGA adviser, said.

The SGA Executive Board still had some spots that needed filling. While Craig Corliss was elected to be secretary, the SGA is missing a few senators and a treasurer. The current plan is for the business department to send the SGA and intern to be treasurer in the spring semester.

While Michael Swann was elected as a write-in to be the fifth year senator, he declined. Michael Thatcher, who had until 4:00 p.m. on Thursday 18 to accept, did not. As of now there is no fifth year senator.

Stephen Gingras, business director of WWLR, was elected as the fourth year senator.

Ashley Mullen, general manager of WWLR, was elected as the third year senator.

Chris Wentworth declined his election to the second year seat, leaving Chris Arsenault until 4:00 p.m. on Friday 19 to accept. Both were write-ins, as no one appeared on the second year senator ballot.

Stephen Farrow, Andrew Chapin Jr., and Joshua Newcity were elected to the first year senate seats, but Newcity did not appear at the House/Senate meeting last Wednesday.

It was decided by a task force made up of House representatives that due to a lack of interest in the SGA, Senate and House would combine. Currently, senators sit with House representatives and vote alongside them. An ad hoc committee has also been formed to draft a new SGA constitution to be submitted to House/Senate for approval.

Plan to use bonds to pay for $10 million academic building

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.
Critic Editor

A plan has been formed to pay for the new buildings that are hoped to be completed on campus by the fall of 2009.

"The way we're proposing to pay for it is to issue debt," Wayne Hamilton, dean of Administration, said. The VSC is issuing $75 million worth in bonds, $13 million of which will be for LSC.

If the plan goes through, $10 million will go to the new construction projects, the largest of which will be a new academic building. The Campus Planning Committee has been meeting weekly to discuss the plans for the new building which change often, Hamilton said.

Currently, the plan is for a three-story building that would go between the Wheelock dormitory and the Harvey Academic Center. The first floor would house the exercise science department, the second floor would be shared between digital graphic arts and meteorology, while the third would be all meteorology.

Another major project in the works that the proposed bonds will pay for is an expansion on the Student Center. It would a one-floor expansion that would go outward towards the pond, covering what is now a flower bed. "I think it's going to give students a lot more gathering space, both indoors and outdoors," Hamilton said. A terrace between the extension and the pond is also planned.

Most of the Student Center addition would be for general purposes as an alternative to the Alexander Twilight Theatre, Hamilton said.

The other $3 million is intended to go towards upgrading the windows and the heating system in HAC, as well as major upgrades to the Stonehenge dormitories. If all goes well, construction will begin in the summer of 2008 and be complete by the fall of 2009, Hamilton said.

The advantage of using bonds to pay is that the process is open to the public. With private entities vying for the bonds, the interests rates are apt to be lower. If the bond idea does go through, LSC hopes to have the bonds paid off in 30 years, Hamilton said.

The VSC Board of Trustees Finance and Facility Committee plans to take its recommendation to issue the bonds to the rest of the board next Thursday. The meeting will occur at 3:00 p.m. in AT202.

Building good credit for the future

By Gillian Moore
Special to The Critic

Every time you call a friend, use the water, or turn on a light switch, you are using credit. Credit has become a necessity in today's world; therefore building good credit is very important. Those with good credit are more likely to get a loan, have lower interest rates on loans, and sometimes it can even help you get a job.

"The easiest way to build credit is with a car loan, a student loan, any type of loan, and to make payments on time," Rachel Siegel, a professor in the Business Administration department said. "If you're filling your obligation to the loan, you're building good credit."

The convenience of credit cards can be a real problem and can trick people, making them spend money they don't have and then charging them interest. This is the kind of problem that can lead to bad credit. "The only circumstance students should use credit cards," Siegel said, "is if they are going to pay it off every month. The high interest rates can bury you. When you get the bill and the minimum payment is $15, forget it. The minimum payment has to be the whole thing."

Luckily, paying the card off every month builds good credit. Cardholders who do this are known as convenience users, as opposed to the borrowers who carry a balance and end up paying interest.

According to Siegel, building credit shouldn't be the first thing on college students' lists, "I don't think it's too important to build credit while in college. Once you start paying back your student loans, you'll start building it then."

Although credit can have negative side affects, sometimes it's worth it to have some debt.

For instance, someone who is buying a house or a car would have to save up for a long time if they were going to pay for it. It makes more sense to take out a loan and have those things now.

On a larger scale, credit is important to the economy as well. Businesses need to borrow money in order to grow. "There are two ways to get capital," Siegel said, "through equity and through debt. If they couldn't borrow, there would be no access to capital, and no way to invest."

Prevention of the common cold

By Gwen Cook
Special to The Critic

Everyone's mother must have told them at one point to "put a coat on or you'll catch a cold." The myth surrounding this is that cold weather brings on sicknesses. This myth is false.

Every autumn people seem to come down with cold-like symptoms such as runny noses, congested sinuses, and dry throats. To set the record straight, this is not caused by cold weather. People do get sick more in the cooler seasons for the simple reason that people are together and inside more.

Abby Provost, a registered nurse at the Brown House, said that nasal membranes become dried out and are more susceptible to droplets. These droplets are what come out of other people's noses and mouths when they are sneezing and coughing. They stay in the air throughout the houses and are transferred very easily.

There are many ways to prevent or to help avoid getting sick in the future. As Provost says, "The #1 prevention for the common cold is hand washing." If you aren't in a position to wash your hands after touching something germ ridden, hand sanitizer is also effective. Adequate sleep, as always, is crucial in the prevention and process of staying well. Cut down on germs by airing out the house on nicer days and during bad weather turn on a humidifier to allow more moisture in the air.

If you weren't able to avoid becoming sick it is always good to know that the tried and true methods for getting well are actually helpful. "Chicken soup and other vegetable soups are effective," Provost says, "they are nutritious, which is what your body needs in order to get well."

There is no medication available to treat the common cold. A cold is a virus and must be allowed to run its course. Treating the symptoms is quite easy though with items such as cough lozenges or ibuprofen.

Teacher's email sparks campus wide controversy

Recently Beth Norris sent out an e-mail on LSCall. Her comments sparked a controversy all over campus about Jordan Royers sex column. Over the week both students and faculty sent in their opinions in response to Norris' letter. These responses ranged from agreement to outrage at Norris' comments and suggestions to Royer for making his column better. These are the letters the Critic received

Beth Norris' open letter to sex columnist Royer

Mr. Jordan Royer;
I have read your "Holy Sheet" column for the last few weeks and I am extremely concerned about the direction your comments have taken. I believe that you are publicly espousing and encouraging the dissemination of pornography. I understand that your freedom of speech is guaranteed by our constitution and therefore no one can censure your writing; but, your words represent all of us at Lyndon State College. The sum total of who we are as a learning/teaching institution is reflected in everything we as individuals in this learning commons present to our peers and to the public. We all have a responsibility to each other to maintain a standard of dignity and respect toward all of the others in our community. On page 5 of our 2007-08 catalogue under "Community" you can find this statement: "As a Community of life-long learners, we encourage personal and social responsibility, honesty, common sense, collaboration, respect for diversity, and the principles represented in the Lyndon State College Promise." And, among other points, the LSC promise contains the following: "Communicate openly, honestly and respectfully with others; Practice personal and academic integrity; Demonstrate compassion and responsibility through service and involvement in the Lyndon State College and surrounding community". You have broken that promise and I can no longer be silent in the hopes that you will cease. Through your articles, you have demonstrated a disregard for personal and social responsibility, a complete lack of common sense, a disregard for personal and academic integrity, and a dangerously flippant and misogynistic attitude toward human relationships Therefore, since you have violated the basic principles that hold us together and structure the foundation of our institution, I am calling for your immediate dismissal from Lyndon State College.
Sincerely,
Elizabeth Norris, DMA
Coordinator of Fine & Performing Arts
Coordinator of Liberal Studies
Lyndon State College

A quick rebuttal

In general I have found Mr. Royer's columns to be lighthearted, humorous and refreshing if sometimes a bit challenging and provocative. To be able to read a column that addresses an adult subject, published in an environment populated generally by adults has become far too uncommon.
To address the perceived breach of LSC community rules or standards that you have raised... honesty, respect for diversity et al are not words that protect or persecute any one position. Communicate openly means just that.
To request the removal from college enrollment is unbelievably severe in the lifelong ramifications it can have. Were you seeking editorial revue of his future work or even a censorship of the student voice, perhaps your request would appear to be more appropriate. Keeping in mind that The Critic's stated mission is "Serving the student voice of Lyndon State College" and the draconian solution that you request I would urge the President to dismiss your request.
Perhaps most importantly, your choice of and lscall campus wide e-mail, a forum that Mr. Royer may not have access to for a response is wrong on a few levels.

Your opinion would seem to be better presented within the pages of The Critic via a letter to the editor or an open letter to the LSC Community printed within the paper.
I would hope that the interpretation of "the foundation of our institution" would include open communication and free thinking and diversity of opinion.
Mark Majors

Enraged student uses LSC Promise to defend Holy Sheet

I am absolutely infuriated by the immaturity shown over Jordan Royer's article. I feel calling for the removal of an individual student in this way breaks ALL of the LSC goals of the LSC Mission Statement.

Quality Education- Removing Jordan Royer from LSC will take away his quality education, for voicing his opinion.

Experience - This is stressed for "both inside and outside the classroom". Many professors talk about their past sexual experiences in class, so why can't Mr. Royer talk about his outside of class?

Opportunity- Not only will we be removing opportunity for Mr. Royer but also for those who take his experiences and/or advice into account (why... I have no clue). Maybe we think he is wrong, maybe we share the same experiences. Removing him and his article will remove opportunities for those who want that opportunity (if you don't want the opportunity, then don't read it).

Community- Mr. Royer is certainly encouraging social responsibility. He stresses taking responsibility in your sex life! He took responsibility for his interest in porn! In his last article he was honest about pornography. Being honest about the issue is the first component of responsibility. Removing Mr. Royer would be a gross neglect for respect for diversity. If people push their religious beliefs, you can't ask for them to be removed. If someone pushes their sexual orientation you can't remove them because that makes you a bigot. You can't remove someone for their race; that makes you a racist. What is the difference between his beliefs on the complex world of sex, and another person's view on the complex world of theology? NOTHING.

Integrity- Removing a student for his beliefs and opinions gives you NO INTEGRITY, and calling for it through the e-mail system so every student has to be a part of it is also lacking integrity. So with all of those principals being completely neglected by the person who wants to use it to remove a student, I think maybe it is a few of our professors that need a liberal education. In the end, Jordan Royer isn't a sex expert, and hasn't tried to trick us into believing that he is. He is just a person sharing his experiences and opinions in a college newspaper editorial; the article isn't needed and probably isn't appropriate for public viewing, but many people would say the same about vagina monologues, and you support that!

LSC Students take note,
First they came for conservatives, and I said nothing because I was not a conservative,
Then they came for the Smokers, and I said nothing because I wasn't a smoker,
Then they came for the opinionated, and I did nothing because I had no opinion to voice,
Then they cam for me, and there was no one left to do anything for me.
Slippery slope kids, slippery slope.
Blanton, Derrick J.

Student makes suggestions for for Holy Sheet: Research versus personal experience

I have wanted to write this letter to the Critic since I read Jordan Royer's first two columns, and especially now in light of the e-mail controversy his column has conjured. First, I must say that I applaud the Critic for allowing his freedom of speech, but I am disgusted with the careless liberty Jordan has taken in pursuing what could rightfully be a rewarding and informative (or humorous at the very least) column. I, for one, do not care to read incoherent gibberish on Jordan's masturbation techniques or his extensive use of porn. Besides offensively writing about "bumping uglies" and portraying women as nothing more than sexual toys, he is not portraying himself, nor men in general, in a very good light.
Keep your column, Jordan, but even you must censor yourself. If you want to go for shock value, consider the topic itself and don't try to demean what is a normal, entertaining, and pleasurable part of life. You want to talk sex? Do some research, ask questions, and give your readers real and honest food for thought. Step outside of yourself and your own turn-ons and really look around you. Stop and think about what you think and feel and see. You might actually be inspired to write about a sexual topic far more interesting than your masturbation techniques.
There are many books in the library that you could check out: educated, profound ideas to human sexuality. I believe this will get you further in finding a sex topic to write about (and perhaps better luck pleasing women) than your beloved porn.
You could start with the Kama Sutra, but perhaps reading poetry by Amara Hsien Ku, listening to music by Mystic Rapture or Googling Taoism would give you an inspiration beyond technique itself.
Yeah, you might think that you are just a normal guy reporting on your sexual prowess, your late nights at the Packing House and whether or not you recognized the face you woke up next to in the morning. For the most part, there's nothing wrong with this but I believe the Critic deserves a deeper insight and LSC, as a whole, deserves to read better articles than your commentaries on your addictions. Use your freedom of speech wisely, Jordan. There should be wisdom behind your controversy - or even humor. So far, I've yet to see either.
-Tricia Pennypacker

Editor's opinion on the sex column controversy

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.
Critic Editor.

I don't remember The Critic ever getting so many letters about anything, including students being physically harassed at drinking parties, hazings, and the much more recent arson attempt in the Rogers dormitory building. You know, the one where two people attempted to force their way into a student's room while he was asleep, *and then lit thisng on fire?*

Not to blow a minor incident out of proportion, but the possibility that a dorm filled with students could burn down does exist, yet all we can seem to talk about is the sex column in the student newspaper. We've even got a professor calling for the writer's expulsion. Why isn't there a mob of people calling for an investigation into who set the fire in Rogers so we can expel them?

Our original thought behind having a sex column was to get the campus to talk about sex, laugh, and pick up more copies of The Critic. We knew from the start it would ruffle some feathers and that some people wouldn't like it. What the column has actually done is spark a debate about free speech on this campus.

A good thing too, considering some of us have some very different views on the nature of the first amendment.

I've been reading all of the letters sent to The Critic as well as what's gone around in the e-mail system. I've also been keeping an eye on Facebook and the LSC discussion boards. I'd like to clear the air about a few things:

No one with the authority to expel Jordan Royer has expressed any desire to do so.

Holy Sheet will continue to run as long as Jordan writes it. The only approval any article needs before it goes into The Critic is that of the editor-in-chief. It's also the chief editor's job to bear the brunt of responsibility when it comes to public backlash.

It is not okay to gather up every copy you can find of the free student newspaper and place them in a pile near the stairs in Vail next to a sign expressing your displeasure. Everyone has a right to one free copy of The Critic. Interfering with our distribution violates that right. To whoever piled up those Critics, you're not the first person to have such an idea, and I'd like to inform you that the courts take a dim view of the practice.

The Critic welcomes *all* letters from its readership. Send them straight to the editor and it's likely they'll see print. There's no need to use the college's mass e-mail feature, or interfere with The Critic's distribution to let us know your opinion.

Holy Sheet

Dinner and a movie

By Jordan Royer

Most of you are probably well aware of the bedtime movies I am talking about, that is, if you read last week's column, but along with movies, there are other things you can bring into the bedroom to enhance your sex life, including food.

Let us first look at chocolate. In doing some research I noticed quite a debate about chocolate; including statistics like- over 50 percent of women prefer chocolate over sex. Holy sheet! I also found that people believe chocolate to be an aphrodisiac, so let us think for a second, is it a coincidence that men buy women chocolate for Valentine's Day? Probably not.

If food, especially chocolate, is so closely related to sex and relationships, why not make it part of your sex life. Chocolate can be a safe, discrete and enjoyable method to enhancing sexual pleasure; and let's not forget, it tastes good as well.

So you have had a chocolate snack, but you are still looking for something else to peak your pleasure, well, why not put a little topping on that in the form of whipped cream. This sugary treat is easy to apply and fun to play around with. Cover your whole body or just specific parts, or better yet, cover your partner by having a whipped cream fight and then enjoy the delicious and sensual reward of licking it off.

Maybe you are looking for a less messy approach to having food in the bedroom. Try this one out. Find a fruit, in my research the most common was strawberries, that tantalizes your taste buds. Have your partner feed you the food and allow the flavor to burst in your mouth, taking in every bit of satisfaction. Strawberries in particular are high in antioxidants and promote circulation, which means increased blood flow to your genitals, therefore increasing arousal. Now that you have unlocked the path to pleasure (it is often said, the way to a man's heart is through his stomach), you can enjoy sex with a new twist.

The bedroom is a place where things tend to get hot and heated, but it doesn't always need to be that way. A great way to add pleasure to your sex life is with the use of ice cubes. Next time you want to really heighten satisfaction during foreplay, think about using an ice cube. This one can be done by or for either sex, so don't feel like you will get left out. There are several different ways to go about this adventure so find the one that works best for you, but to get you started I will mention this. Gently massage your partner's genitals with the ice and then use your warm lips/mouth/tongue to calm the cool. I will warn you though, don't keep the ice on one spot for too long because it can cause numbness that is not all that pleasurable.

So next time you open the refrigerator or freezer think, dinner and a movie- in bed.

Position of the Week- The Wheelbarrow

Student calls for Norris' dismissal

Ms. Norris,

I have read your "Open letter" e-mail today and I am extremely concerned about the direction your comments have taken. I believe that you are publicly espousing and encouraging the dissemination of Free Speech. I understand that what you say in your e-mails is protected by our constitution and therefore no one can censure your writing; but, your words represent all of us at Lyndon State College. The sum total of who we are as a learning/teaching institution is reflected in everything we as individuals in this learning commons present to our peers and to the public. We all have a responsibility to each other to maintain a standard of dignity and respect toward all of the others in our community. In your e-mail you make a reference to the book we choose our classes from; So, I will quote something with equal importance. On the backside of the box my fan came in, under "features" you can find this statement: "Multi-directional oscillation cools larger areas faster and more efficiently." And, among other points, the LSC promise contains the following: "Be curious, think critically, ask questions and actively contribute to the learning environment...

(and)...Demonstrate compassion and responsibility...".

You have broken that promise, and are attempting to prevent another from fulfilling his promise as well. Therefore I can no longer be silent in the hopes that you will cease. Through your e-mail, you have demonstrated a disregard for free speech, personal and social responsibility, a complete lack of a sense of humor, a disregard for personal growth through laughter, and have used numerous multi-syllabic words for no apparent reason. Therefore, since you have violated the basic principles on which we base our sanity, I am calling for your immediate dismissal from Lyndon State College. Or, to have your e-mail account deleted, as to put an end to your tyranny.

Nick Phelan, MD
Minister of Parody and Satire
Society of Sarcasm

RA is disappointed by teachers unprofessional comments

To Whom It May Concern:

I read the email message sent by a certain faculty member regarding Jordan Royer's column, "Holy Sheet" in the Critic. I was shocked to say the least. Being an RA on campus, several of my residents have voiced their disappointment in the message and concerns with a professor suggesting dismissal for someone sharing their opinion in a student run newspaper. I too was very disappointed in the message. I've felt like while this professor seems to usually support students in their success, this time they were unprofessional and demeaning in how they shared their opinion about the article. This should have been something they addressed privately with Mr. Royer, rather than slandering him to the entire LSC community and not even sending the email directly to him but rather hoping he would receive it like every other LSC student through a StuAll.

It's a positive thing that he's taking advantage of the artistic outlet that he has in the Critic, and the positive that there is in him writing well written articles in the Critic. As a promoter of academia this professor should be supporting student's rights to express themselves in different ways, thinking outside the box, rather than suggesting that they are dismissed for sharing their ideas with others.

Nathan R. Rossetti
Resident Assistant
Arnold/Bayley
Psych/Human Services
Admissions Assistant

Royer's column expresses freedom of exploration

I would agree with Mark on this issue.

As instructor of comparative sexuality this semester, I find Mr. Royer's comments right in line with the freedom of exploration that we seek in that course. We are studying cross-cultural expressions of coitus from the Trobriand Islands to the Isle of Inis Beag and find that many cultures endorse masturbation as a technique for fostering a healthy sense of one's sexual self. I found Mr. Royer's commentary to be quite interesting and informative. Many cultures utilize visual heuristics and aphrodisiacs to obtain orgasm. In this case, he is opting for visual pornographic imagery. Is that so different from the visual instructions associated with the Kama Sutra, designed to educate one towards obtaining a heightened sense of spiritual and sexual bliss?

I recommend the Kama Sutra, Mr. Royer. You might find it quite helpful in achieving your goals.

Jannet Bennion

Alan Boye builds house made of straw

Alan Boye stands by the house

Photo by Norman Johnson

Alan Boye beside a solar panel

Photo by Norman Johnson

Norman Johnson
Special to the Critic

Alan Boye, professor of English and Linda Wacholder, director of career services at Lyndon State College are building a straw house this year with technology originally used in settling the Great Plains.

As strange as a straw house may seem, think stacked square bales. Straw construction has a solid historical base as well.

"They started building straw houses in my home state of Nebraska about 140 years ago," said Boye. "Some are still standing. That's a good test of their durability."

The house is built on a 6-inch water heated concrete slab. Conventional lumber and trusses make up the load-bearing parts while the straw bales are tightly stacked between the framing of the perimeter walls. The 14-16-inch thick bales give an R-40 rating to the exterior walls. By comparison, conventional 6 inch walls are only R-19.

"The walls are finished with a plaster of straw, clay, sand, chopped straw, lime, and water." Boye said. The smooth slightly uneven wall surfaces and natural rounded corners give the house an eye-pleasing earthy look and the deep-set windows give a feeling of security and mass.

Furthermore, they are building off the grid. In the yard, a 10 by 14 foot array of photovoltaic panels will trickle electric power to a gang of eight 12-volt deep-cycle storage batteries. When power is needed for appliances, the stored DC power travels to an inverter, converted to AC and then to the appliances.

"We'll have 4 to 5 days of power if the panels aren't generating enough," Boye said. "We have a generator for emergencies."

A well insulated small house will be easy to heat. Oriented to catch the sun through south facing windows, the smooth-finished acid-washed walnut brown concrete floor will absorb and radiate stored heat at night.

"The place should run by itself, Boye said. "The wood stove will be the primary heat."

"We had a few problems. Getting people to try something new was a problem," Boye said. "There are tools, for instance, in building this type of house that you just don't go down to the hardware store and find. Then, sometimes people don't show up when they're supposed to."

"Straw is cheap. But the labor involved doesn't' save you any money, it's about a wash in the end," Boye said. "But straw bales packed tight and plastered won't burn, the mice don't burrow into them, and straw's really good insulation. I also like keeping my money in the community; buying local straw, using local labor."

In addition to the hours of sweat equity Boye put into their project, he had help from his colleagues at the college. English professors Buck Beliles, Richard Moye and psychology professor Jon Fitch leant helping hands.

Boye has plans to expand the solar capabilities of his heat system, storing more solar energy and using it to boost his hot water/heat system. But that's down the road a bit. Right now he's a busy guy with an eye on English duties, the other on getting the house finished and a Zen third eye on the weather.

Hearing on the Freedom to Marry to come to Lyndon State College

Eric Downing
Critic Staff

When LSC students go home for Thanksgiving Break this year they'll miss a very important event on campus. The Vermont Commission on Family Recognition and Protection will hold a hearing in the Alexander Twilight Theatre on November 19, 2007 at 1 PM. The hearing is about whether or not Vermont should allow same-sex couples to marry. This hearing is one of a series that the commission is holding in various locations throughout the state. The previous two-part hearing was at Johnson State College on October 10, in the Bentley Auditorium. The first part was sparsely attended, the small auditorium dotted with only a few people. At this time, the Commission's chair, Tom Little talked about the history behind the commission and freedom to marry movement, including the Civil Union law seven years ago.

After an hour break for dinner, the testimony portion of the hearing was opened up. The auditorium had become chock full over the hour break; the room teeming with people ready to testify. Around 25 people got up to speak before the commission, the majority of who were in support of legalizing same-sex marriage. Two people expressed opposition, the first being the speaker whom kicked off the testimony, self-proclaimed "freeman of Grand Isle" Brian Pearl. Pearl had the point that marriages can end in divorce because of failure to "consummate the marriage," and said that same-sex couples are physically unable to do just that. "You will not win," said Pearl vindictively. "You will not win."

A good sum of the testimonies for the legalization of same-sex were heart-felt personal accounts. Many of the speakers were currently in a long-term relationship and had gotten Civil Unions with their partners when the law passed seven years ago. "I've been with Bobbie for 40 years now," one silver-haired woman declared, holding up an old photograph of the two together. Another man said that his partnership had reached 32 years. Still another male couple had been together 23 years. All of these couples got Civil Unions as soon as they could. Why didn't they feel that was enough?

Peggy, a woman married 45 years and also a grandmother said simply, "Marriage is everyone's right." A man named Bob explained to the commission that he had to pay thousands of dollars extra a year to be on his partner's insurance, money he wouldn't have to pay if they were married. Similar stories were told of same-sex Civilly United couples being unable to get the same benefits their married coworkers get. One man tried to acquire the health coverage from his company given to married employees when he got his Civil Union. He got back a letter that said. "Congratulations on your Civil Union, but it doesn't mean anything to us, because it isn't a marriage."

Many speakers connected the current struggle of homosexuals for gay marriage to other Civil Rights movements in the past. One gentleman reminded the commission about the days when blacks were segregated with separate drinking fountains, bathrooms, and restaurants. He asked what was so different between those times and these now, in which once again we find that separate cannot be equal. A heterosexual woman with "no gay relatives" told the commission that she marched for Civil Rights in the 60's. She had been at Martin Luther King's famous "I have a Dream" speech. She asked of the commission to," remember when we sang those Civil Right's songs."

In a report after the hearing, Little said that he didn't think that the commission heard enough variety of testimony and believes there are still deviating opinions out there. He said that he hoped that more people would be able to attend the upcoming hearing at LSC on November 19.

Fun Page

"WARNING: This week's Fun Page may not be deemed suitable for all ages, creeds, or walks of life. All are welcome to try it, though..."

Completely Clean Word Search (If your mind is in the right place, you won't be offended)

M	S	U	C	K	V	H	Q	O	T	F	S	E	X	E	R	R	Q	V	A	R	H	K	C	F
C	M	N	L	A	K	J	B	I	C	Y	U	U	T	J	C	L	T	P	L	N	D	W	F	S
R	U	F	D	L	L	H	V	O	E	A	F	B	A	Z	A	S	W	C	T	U	P	W	P	T
N	U	W	N	U	R	D	D	T	P	X	T	H	T	P	W	M	G	E	C	I	K	R	C	I
B	E	S	T	G	W	T	Q	M	Q	V	V	C	I	F	I	L	K	K	T	A	O	C	P	M
N	Q	H	L	R	U	M	U	B	I	Q	Q	Y	H	X	R	V	I	N	Z	N	F	A	V	U
S	D	Z	Q	O	M	H	T	V	Z	Y	O	T	Y	U	A	E	Y	Q	E	A	K	V	N	L
O	O	A	L	I	P	E	H	E	Q	T	E	P	K	K	D	M	C	G	R	L	R	Q	Q	A
R	C	R	C	S	T	R	M	L	E	V	K	L	X	E	P	Z	I	P	V	P	B	O	J	T
A	T	J	F	U	P	X	O	W	P	E	U	W	Z	E	A	H	V	L	T	E	W	W	C	I
L	O	D	P	W	P	F	U	T	G	V	Y	C	F	Q	O	X	I	D	C	C	O	T	Q	O
M	R	N	Y	J	I	X	B	E	E	Z	P	T	P	J	P	R	Q	L	L	U	O	Z	W	N
D	C	H	Z	O	T	N	X	F	Z	C	K	M	R	J	Q	K	S	D	O	A	D	N	A	E
E	O	W	D	I	C	D	D	U	G	S	T	H	Q	I	R	I	S	K	Y	S	L	T	Y	D
G	X	X	M	H	H	L	Y	R	B	O	R	I	S	V	D	Q	S	E	X	T	S	O	I	F
Y	Z	X	I	X	B	S	N	W	M	F	W	T	O	C	D	O	M	Y	H	Y	G	O	T	F
K	Z	P	K	D	Z	S	L	K	Z	K	T	C	G	N	C	C	J	C	K	E	W	I	N	O

Word List

Catch Protection Risky Doctor Cox Sauce Dirty Climax
Pitch Wood Sex Suck Anal Hump Stimulation Oral

HOROSCOPES! You know you missed them last week!

ARIES (3/21-4/19): You drive while frustrated at backseat drivers. Feel free to let them know, "I'M DRIVING!!!!!"

TAURUS (4/20-5/20): Becoming a peeping Tom is advisable in this stage of your life.

GEMINI (5/21-6/21): You will lock yourself in your room and cruise the World Wide Web ALL DAY. This is true of every day.

CANCER (6/22-7/22): Taking Jordan's column seriously is recommended for you. He will teach you well.

LEO (7/23-8/22): Tell your best friend loudly and proudly that you ARE NOT a prostitute. This statement will hold more power if you aren't touching her/his boyfriend's Richard.

VIRGO (8/23-9/22): That fart joke you told in fourth grade has spread well beyond your direct influence. Congratulations!

LIBRA (9/23-10/22): You will discover that there's nothing more confusing than getting into a whirlpool upside down.

SCORPIO (10/23-11/21): Delay your move too long and you'll get c***blocked by another guy or gal.

SAGITTARIUS (11/22-12/21): There's nothing funny about "DIABEETUS" so stop laughing.

CAPRICORN (12/22-1/19): You're hot blooded! Check it and see! You'll have to stay home 'cause you got a disease.

AQUARIUS (1/20-2/18): I recommed that you dig out your parent's old Beatles' albums and listen to them backwards. It does a mind good.

PISCES (2/19-3/20): Your momma.

STUDENT METEOROLOGIST: Bryan Shaw

The latest forecast for Northeast Vermont including Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans counties.

Above average temperatures return as we make our way into the weekend. Expect increasing cloud cover into tomorrow as a warm front approaches and will eventually bring light scattered showers. Those showers will become increasingly steady into Friday night and Saturday as a cold front passes. Expect totals of at least a half inch to an inch. Those showers will move out early on Saturday and make way for a nice rest of the weekend.

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

Controversial Sudoku

			7		5		4	
2			1	3				9
1	6			8		5	7	
	3		2	1				6
8		2	3					
	5	7				9		
6	8	1		7				4
			8					5

LSC Relevant Crossword

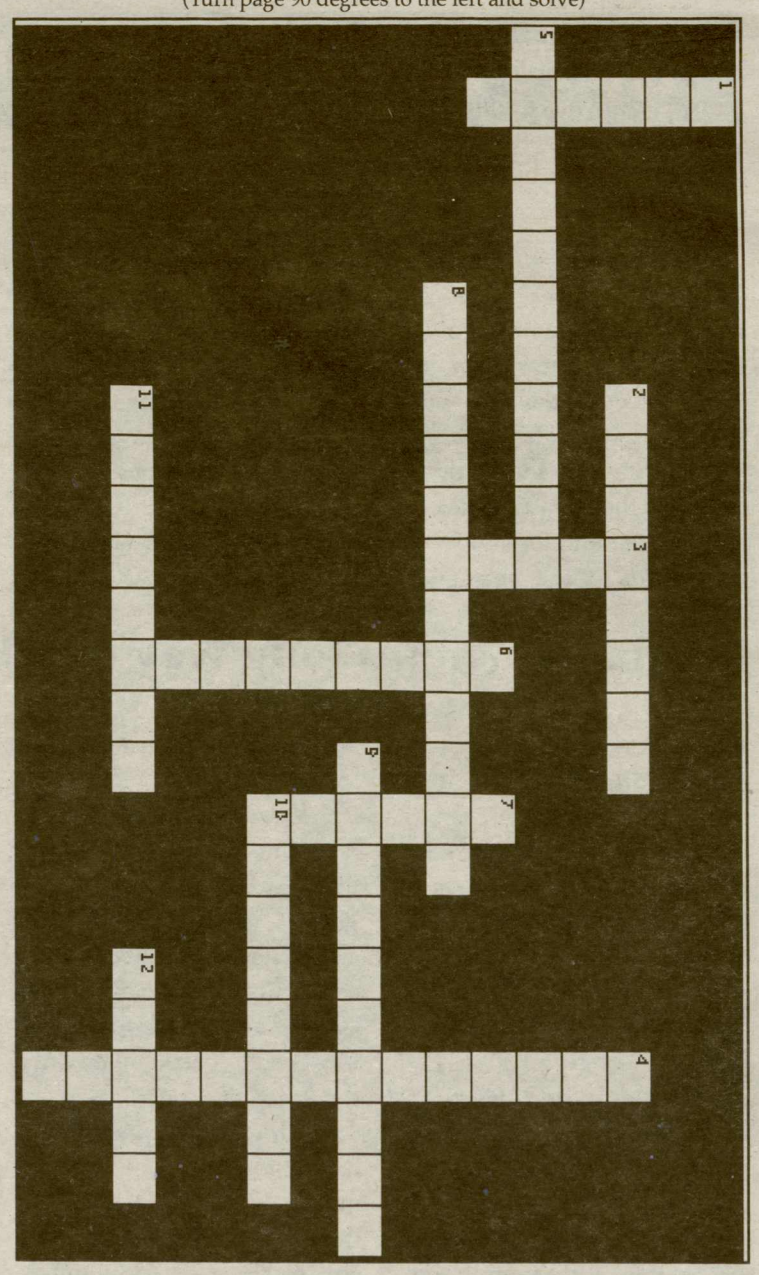
ACROSS

2. The hearing coming to LSC on Nov. 19 will be about same-sex _____.
5. One of Holy Sheet's main focuses last week was _____.
8. Holy Sheet has been notorious for its references to _____.
9. A right given to every free American.
10. New Facebook group: _____ _____ Sheet.
11. Adviser for the Critic: Dan.
12. Illegal form of pornography.

DOWN

1. Someone in a newspaper who you can write letters of complaint to.
3. Last name of the student who writes this paper's controversial article.
4. First "position of the week."
6. Book publicly recommended to the author of Holy Sheet.
7. Last name shared by Chuck and Beth.

(Turn page 90 degrees to the left and solve)



STUMPED!?

For solutions to this week's puzzles as well as last week's, visit our site on the web at lyndonstate.edu/critic. You know you want to cheat yourself on my enigmatic puzzlers.

Puzzles Generated by Overlord of Fun, Eric Downing. For complaints about my fun page, please send a mass LSC email. That should draw some attention to me.

Remembering Chris Benoit: May 21, 1967 – June 24, 2007

By Timothy "Timmy" Kemp
Special to The Critic

I'm sure everyone knows by now about the Benoit family tragedy that took place this past June. If you're not a wrestling fan, you're probably thinking, "Yeah isn't he that wrestler who killed his wife and child, before hanging himself?"

I can't even explain to you how much that annoys me, because Chris Benoit's career is now tainted. I mean no one will ever remember his great accomplishments in the wrestling business because of what happened those last few days of his life.

Well I'm here to tell everyone reading this about the real Chris Benoit: a man that would sacrifice his physical wellbeing for the business he loved so dearly.

When I think about the years of watching Chris perform, one word comes to mind – passion. And saying that is even kind of an understatement. He has gone on record as saying, "Wrestling has consumed my life. It is my passion and my mistress. It defines a lot of who I am as a person." Chris never had a job outside of wrestling. He started when he was ten years old, training at the famous Hart Family Dungeon in Calgary, Canada. He went on to compete in Calgary Stampede Wrestling for a few years, before competing over in Japan.

While wrestling overseas, he met two individuals that would become his closest friends in the business – Dean Malenko and Eddie Guerrero. These guys were like brothers to one another, going on to work together in the three top wrestling organizations in America – Paul Heyman's ECW, Ted Turner's WCW and Vince McMahon's WWE.

After Eddie's passing in November of 2005, Chris was one of guys who inducted him in the WWE Hall of Fame. They were inseparable, and truly changed the model of wrestling here in the United States. If you ever get a chance to watch a match of one of these individuals, you're in for a classic. However, Chris's biggest accomplishment of his career came in the beginning of 2004.

It was January when Chris Benoit won the 2004 Royal Rumble Match. For those of you who may not be familiar with this contest, Chris lasted 62 minutes in the ring, competing against 29 other wrestlers.

Because of this win, a month and a half later, he went on to compete in the main event of WrestleMania XX for the World Heavyweight Championship.

That night in front of a sold out crowd in Madison Square Garden, Chris defeated Triple H and Shawn Michaels for his first World Title in the WWE. And along with Eddie, who were the two who congratulated him in the ring after the match? It was none other than his wife Nancy, and their 7-year old son Daniel.

In the crowning achievement in Chris's professional career, he wanted to share it with his family. If you watched the news coverage over the summer about the tragedy, this event was shown with him hugging his family, and the confetti coming down. Chris loved his family with an absolute passion, and brought his son to his matches whenever he could. It's even been noted that if Chris had a match a couple hours away from his home, instead of staying in a hotel, he would drive home just to spend time with his family for a few hours. He didn't have to do that, but he held family close to his heart, because being on the road 300 days a year isn't easy, but Chris made it work.

For what made Chris Benoit to do what he did earlier this year, only God truly knows. I honesty believe it was a combination of a lot of different elements, which we will probably never know. I also believe it certainly was not done just because of drug abuse, despite what the media and all the wrestling "nay-sayers" will have you think.

Although I don't agree with his actions, I don't think this should take the place of his extraordinary contributions to the wrestling business. He was by far the best technical wrestler you would have seen anywhere in the world, and his passion is certainly unmatched with anyone in the business today. I can only hope and pray that God will forgive him and that Chris, Nancy and Daniel Benoit can all be a loving family in the gates of Heaven. God bless you Chris, and thank you for all the memories you've given us in wrestling.

Chris Benoit's Career Highlights
(Courtesy of World Wrestling Entertainment Inc.)

-World Heavyweight Champion
-WWE Tag Team Champion
-3-Time World Tag Team Champion
-4-Time Intercontinental Champion
-4-Time United States Champion
-2-Time WCW Tag Team Champion
-3-Time WCW Television Champion
-ECW Tag Team Champion
-2004 Royal Rumble Winner

What's the buzz with the Hornets?

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

Captains Tracy Anketell and Erica Kelleher of the volleyball team, Jeremiah Powell of the cross country team, and Jeff Giroux of the men's soccer team have all been named Lyndon State's Athletes of the week for the last two weeks.

Anketell and Powell won the awards for the week ending October 7 (Fall Break weekend).

Powell helped the Hornets to a third-place finish at the Runnin' Monks Invitational at St. Joseph's College (ME). Powell finished fifth in the men's race, running the eight-kilometer course in 30:10.

Anketell returned from injury on October 7 in a match at Hesser. She had six aces, seven assists and six digs.

Kelleher and Giroux won the awards for the week ending October 14. In the Hornets' 3-0 win at home over Vermont Tech on October 13, Kelleher had 10 aces and five assists.

Giroux made six saves in the Hornets' tough loss at Thomas, 2-1 in overtime. Giroux ranks 13th in the USCAA with a 1.91 goals-against average.

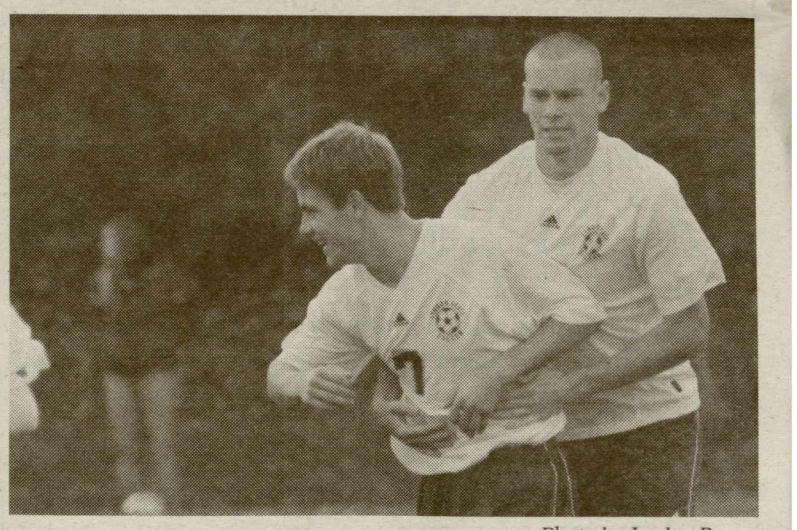


Photo by Jordan Royer

Heath Richmond is embraced by Mike Thatcher after scoring the Hornet's lone goal in a 1-1 tie against UMaine-Farmington on Wednesday.

Footballer comes long way to achieve his dream

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

Makuni Verite is a freshman who comes to Lyndon State College with a very unique story.

Verite, better known as "V" on the soccer team, is a native of Congo, Africa. He now resides in Burlington, according to LSC's athletics site. He moved to the U.S. three years ago, with his three brothers. He also has four sisters that are still living in the Congo.

"Everybody plays soccer in Congo. It's a very big deal," Verite said.

Lyndon State wasn't even Verite's first choice for college. He said that Brigham Young University in Utah was his top choice.

"I was looking for a soccer program. That was the only thing I was looking for," Verite said. He added that he also liked their anti-smoking and drinking policies as a Christian school, noting that he doesn't partake in any of those activities.

Unfortunately, Verite hasn't gotten a chance to play much soccer this season for the Hornets. During preseason, he slipped and fell on a step while moving his belongings into his dorm room. He injured his knee so badly in that fall that he couldn't even practice with the team.

As a result, Verite's only been able to play in four games this season. However, in those four games, he has scored three goals, which puts him third on the team in scoring with six points.

Verite said that he'll have X-rays done on his knee next week, which will determine if he'll be able to play any more this season. Even though he might not be able to play, Verite says that he still enjoys spending time with his teammates.

"I will always be there supporting my teammates," Verite said.

Verite isn't quite sure what he wants to major in while at Lyndon State. He did say that he's thinking about going into the business program and seeing how it works out for him.

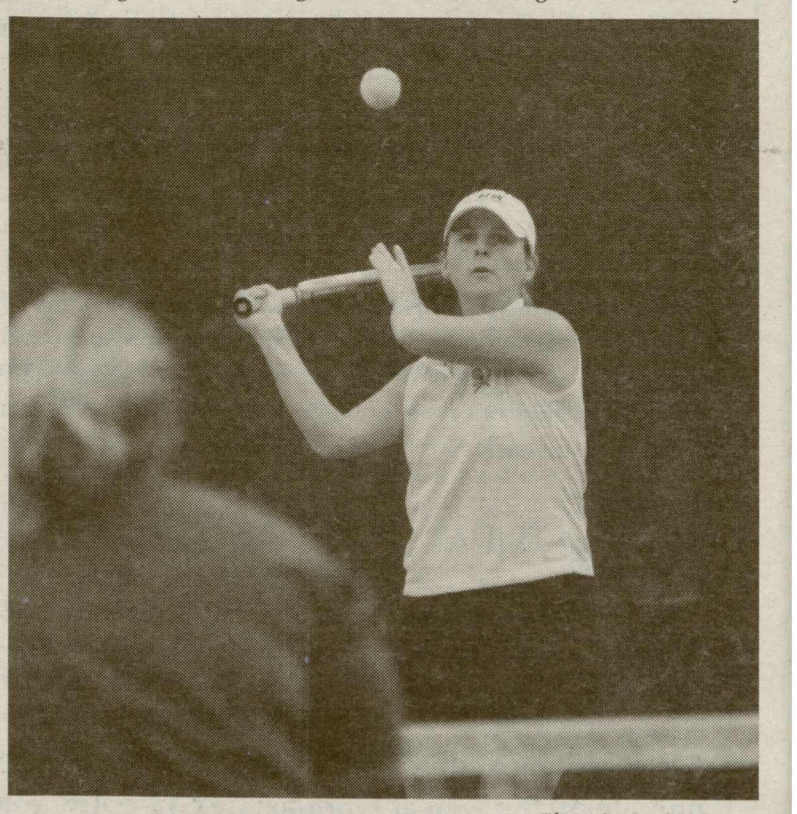


Photo by Jordan Royer

Sophomore Ashley Dewhurst returns a volley during a doubles tennis match against Castleton State at LSC on Wednesday.

The Critic

Serving the student voice of Lyndon State College

One copy free, extras 50 cents each

Lyndonville, Vt. www.lyndonstate.edu/critic Friday, October 26, 2007 Volume 54, Number 5

Trish Pennypacker poses next to pumpkins in Salem Mass. on Pg. 5

So many issues, so little time...

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.
Critic Editor

Many of the panels that met at the VSC Strategic Planning Forum didn't have enough time to get through their agendas.

The Student Access and Academic Success panel was only able to get to the fourth item on its agenda, after it had moved the academic success item from number seven up to number one on the list.

While retention was fourth on the list of topics, it kept coming up in other conversations. As far as academic success goes, Debra Hale, registrar, discussed her views on retention rates being used to measure student success rates. "I think success sometimes means that a student finds we have prepared them for something else," Hale said. "As long as they have graduated and are successful, that's a success."

"It's almost impossible to measure that," LSC President Carol Moore said. Retention rates are figured according to a national standard. When it comes time too look at college success rates, two sets of records is not an option.

Another issue orbiting retention rates was LSC's open admissions policy. Janet Bennion, professor of anthropology, said that some of her students weren't as engaged as others, and that the disparity often led to the students who were engaged feeling the strain. "I know no one wants to talk about that, but I feel I have to bring it up," Bennion said.

Ashley Mullen and Hayley LaPoint, the only two students on the panel, agreed with Bennion that students who were better prepared for academic life at the college level suffered slightly from being in classes with those that weren't as prepared.

Moore said that if LSC did not keep its recruitment rates up, it would eventually have to close.

The discussion turned to methods of how to better prepare students for getting through college. Hale said that steps needed to be taken to make sure students at LSC and other colleges don't get bogged down by the administrative aspect of college, but are challenged instead by the academic aspect.

"I would like to see an emphasis on improving students from an academic point of view," Charles Kezar, professor of business administration, said.

To help students with the nuts and bolts of college existence, the panel suggested improving the student's advisers. "You can see by the lines at doors that there are good advisers," Kezar said. "I'd like to see the lines even out."

Preparing students at the high school level was also a topic of discussion for the panel. Donna Keely, director of First-Year Experience, brought up the idea of giving high schools feedback on how the students they graduated were doing in college. The idea being that the high schools would then know what they needed to do in order to better prepare their students, even going so far as to offer courses that would prepare them in their senior year of high school, for their freshman year in college.

Keely also suggested better exit surveys for college graduates as well as a better early alert system to help out students in danger of failing academically.

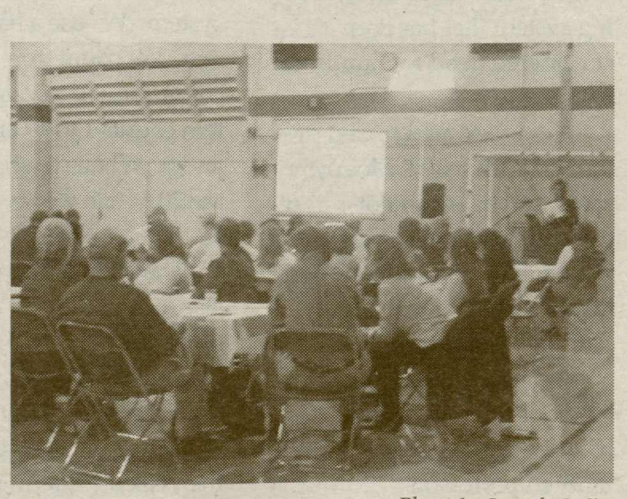


Photo by Joseph Gullo

Above: LSC faculty, administrators, and a few students gathered in the Stannard gym for the VSC Strategic Planning Forum last Thursday at 12:00 p.m.

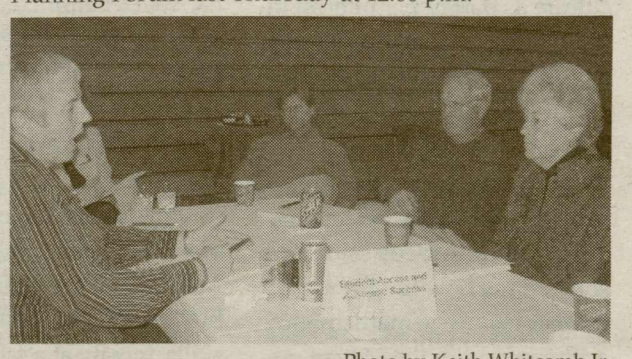


Photo by Keith Whitcomb Jr.

Above from left to right: Registrar Debra Hale, library director Garret Nelson , professor of business administration Charles Kezar, and LSC President Carol Moore discuss the future of the VSC as part of the Student Access and Academic Success.

Strokanov and students publish book

By Heather Perkins
Critic Staff

Alexandre Strokanov, professor of history, and five of his students were recently published in the new book entitled "Leader of the Coming Century."

Strokanov's original intention was nothing close to the book, but instead it was to simply have his freshmen Representing the World classes write a paper about what they thought about world or international leadership. Other humanities classes besides Strokanov's did a similar thing.

From what started out as a paper, slowly evolved into something more. Strokanov and a few other professors around the world decided to take what they thought were some of the best essays from their classes and send them into an international contest.

There was no prize for this contest, it was merely seeking to find what students around the world thought about leadership.

Strokanov was a member sitting on the committee.

Five of his students: Danielle Fournier, Heather Frigon, Natallie Lavoie, Heidi Lyons, and Joseph Mula, all participated in the contest and made it to the finals.

Strokanov, when choosing their essays from the start, had made sure not to cover just one view.

The essays covered a variety of topics, and showed that everyone has their own opinions about leadership.

The contest's committee decided, after reading the entries, that they wanted to put the essays that made it to the top into a book.

But Strokanov said that money always causes problems.

It was Russia's committee member that was able to step up and find the money to publish the book.

Strokanov's five student's stories were included into the 68-page book.

For the most part, the book is in Russian - Strokanov mentioned that the book was published there, and that it makes sense for it to be that way, and not have a translation.

The student's essays remained in their original form, and reside at the end of the book.

Strokanov was asked if he wanted to help out, and he gladly agreed. He wrote its introduction, in Russian as well, which summarizes each of his student's essays, so that anyone in Russia reading it will be able to at least have an idea of what the five essays are about if they cannot read English.

"They [the students] can bring the book home to friends and family," Strokanov said.

Each are now considered published authors, and as Strokanov says about the book in general, "It's very cool."

None of them had ever done anything like this before, and Strokanov hoped to move on with other, similar, ideas.

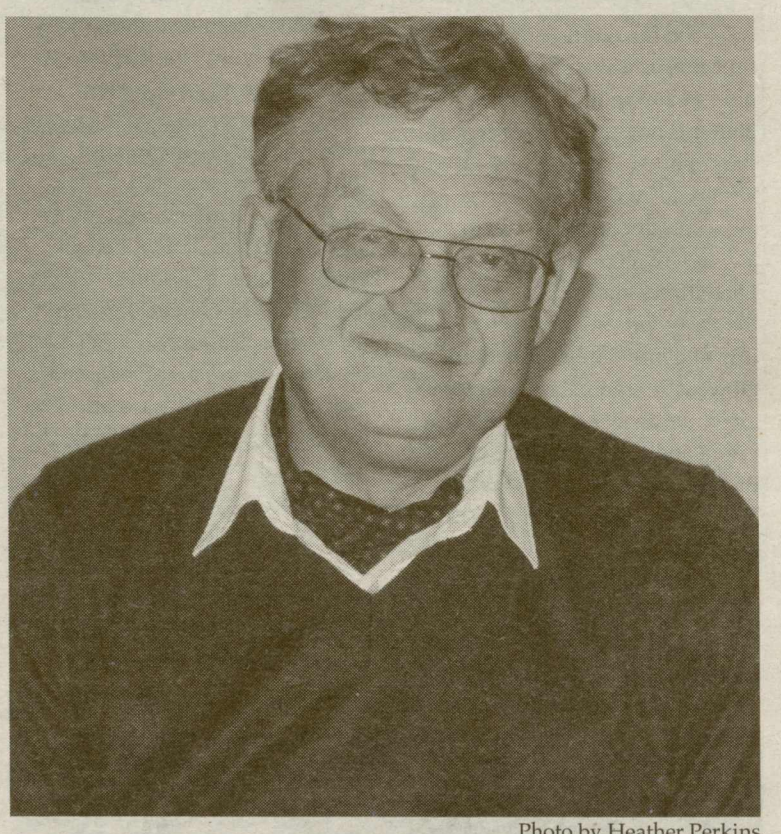


Photo by Heather Perkins

Professor of history, Alexandre Strokanov, had some of his student's papers published in a book titled Leader of the Coming Century. The book is published in Russian, except for the student's essays that were included.

Strokanov also write the book's introduction in Russian, and in so doing, sumarized the students' articles so that Russian-speaking readers would be able to read their words.

Math teacher traveling to Central America

By Norman Johnson
Special to The Critic

Daisy McCoy, professor of mathematics at Lyndon State College, is on sabbatical and plans to travel this year to the highlands of Guatemala to research an ancient Mayan counting system that has been considered dead for hundreds of years.

"It's an extremely easy system to work with," McCoy said. "All bars and dots. You can use sticks and stones and zero is a flower or a shell, you just lay it out on the ground. Adding becomes very easy."

A sabbatical is a year of study or research granted by colleges or universities to their tenured professors.

In the past, McCoy has led LSC field trips to Guatemala and Honduras to study Mayan culture as part of her interest in math history. This trip she will research a project of her own.

"It was a couple of years ago, on a bus with a man who was helping me practice my Spanish and he started talking about math," McCoy said. "He showed me how his grandmother had done mathematics, arithmetic, with the Mayan numerals and I had thought Mayan numerals were dead. People stopped using them 500 years ago."

Anthropologists have known about the system for some time, however it was commonly though to be out of use. "But no one that I've found so far has asked the modern Mayans how they do it," McCoy said.

It's called a vigesimal system, from the Latin 20, a base 20 system. We use a base 10 system. We count from 1 to 9, then count 1and 0. A vigesimal system counts 1 to 19 and then 1 and 0. When we see 10, they see 20, when we see 20, they see 40.

They had a zero concept also, one of the first peoples to use it. Zero has two roles: as a placeholder (to show 10 is different than just 1), and to say, "how many." They used it in their calendar, as in keeping a history. They would say: 5 years 2 months and 0 days. "They clearly had a way of saying 'ah-ha,' that's a number," McCoy said. "Whereas other ancient people, and many children, don't think of 0 as a number: 'You don't have any,' or 'that's not a number.'"

Beyond the major tourist areas, English is rarely spoken. McCoy will spend five weeks building her Spanish language skills, mostly at a school in Xela (shay-la) in Quetzaltenango. The last several weeks of her language study will be at a small school in the Guatemala highlands where they teach a few of the dialects, essential to her research.

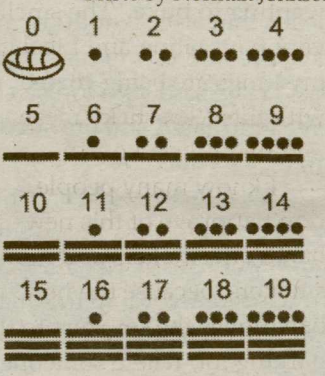
"Actually math isn't hard to talk about; you do it, you don't talk about it," McCoy said. "But building their trust so they'll show me their math is going to take more. The people I really want to talk to don't speak Spanish. They still speak one of the Mayan languages. 31 are still alive, 19 of them in Guatemala."

There is debate about the age of the number system, but most anthropologists agree it to be at least 2000 years old, predating much of Europe. McCoy plans to publish what she learns of value from the research. She would especially like to integrate the cultural and math relationships of her research into teaching tools for middle schools.

"It makes people think about numbers and what numbers mean when you look at them in a different way," McCoy said. "It says ours isn't the only way. For schools with Hispanic populations, it's really nice for the Hispanic kids to realize their ancestors may have beaten the Europeans to some concepts. It's a source of pride for those children, which is very important."

McCoy leaves for Central America Nov. 15 and will return in April 2008, in time to see her students graduate at LSC.

Photo by Norman Johnson



Above: Math Professor Daisy McCoy will be taking a sabbatical in Guatemala this winter. She will be leaving in Novermber to learn about an ancient Mayan counting system that was no longer thought to be in use. Right: An illustration of the Mayan counting system (image by Neuromancer2k4 via Wikipedia.

Event raises alcohol awareness

By Catherine Story
Special to The Critic

The mocktail party was held on Monday night. The party was held at 7:00 p.m. in the student center. The biggest question of the night was, can you guess what you're drinking?

Christopher Wentworth, an RA in Crevecouer and Rachel Ducharme, also an RA, hosted the party, mixing drinks for passing students. They sat behind a table with grape, lemon-lime, orange, citrus and fruit punch flavored sodas. The red party cups that the drinks were served in had facts about drinking written on them.

Each student who participated had to turn their back while the hosts mixed the beverages producing a cocktail concoction. They would tell the student how many juices had been used and then the student would try to guess which were in their drink. Students who guessed correctly won community cash tokens to be used during casino night.

This program was meant to promote alcohol awareness. Phillip Viens' cup said, "Over 6,000 people die because of an alcohol related incident each year." Wentworth held a cup that read "26% of college students drive after drinking alcohol."

Wentworth and Ducharme put on this program as part of their RA responsibilities. Wentworth said, "We have to do programs but they don't have to be as informative and creative as this." According to Ducharme roughly 30 students participated in the event. Out of these students only about 20 correctly guessed what they were drinking.

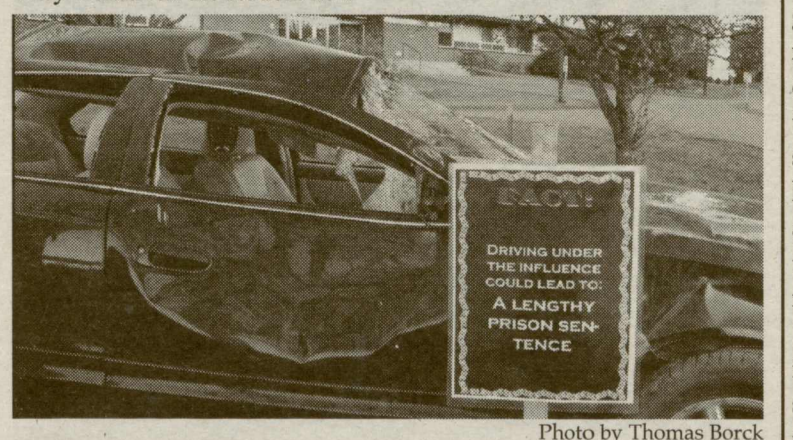


Photo by Thomas Borck

A destroyed car sits on the lawn of Wheelock for alcohol awareness month.

VSC software dictates student's grades

By Tabitha Fitzgerald
Managing Editor

Students that receive incompletes at the end of this semester may be facing failing grades next semester. The scary part is, they may not be notified.

Due to the VSC software program, Datatel, grades given as incompletes (I) only stand for seven weeks before the system automatically changes the grade to an F. Because the grades are changed automatically not all students or professors are notified that the grade will be changed Richard Moye, an english professor at LSC, said.

Moye said that he gives out incompletes every year. These grades are not due to students not handing in their work or doing bad work, but because the student is still working on something in conjunction with his or her professor. This is really common with thesis papers that may take more than two semesters to complete, said Moye.

It used to be LSC policy that incompletes could remain as such until the end of the following semester (an I given in the fall could remain until the end of spring semester). When VSC decided to institute uniform policies and Datatel as the system wide software that policy changed. The seven-week rule came into place.

"I do not like that the system can say that I gave a student an F when I gave them an I (incomplete). They are two different things," Moye said. The VSC excuse is that the system doesn't recognize the I as a grade and so it changes it to a grade it does recognize. But to Moye this is just an excuse.

"The system does what it's programmed to do. It recognizes the things it is programmed to recognize."

An incomplete grade does not give students credit towards their degree, nor does it affect a student's GPA.

What is the problem with an I? Faculty members have asked this question. Moye said he even took the problem to the Academic Policy committee. He proposed that I's be allowed to remain on a students transcripts indefinitely until changed by the professor. The committee denied the proposal.

Incompletes can be extended if the professor files the paperwork. The problem is that not all professors and students are informed that the grade they gave or received is going to be changed. By the time the failing grade is noticed that grade has already affected the students GPA. This could affect other aspects of a student's academic career by affecting eligibility for scholarships or honor societies. It could also put the student on academic probation or get the student dismissed if they are already on probation.

The biggest problem in all of this is that the VSC system does not consider the automatic grade change a problem, Moye said. But all of the colleges on the VSC network will continue to experience this problem until it is fixed.

"Software shouldn't drive the curriculum. The curriculum should drive the software," Moye said. This is not what is happening when the system can change the grades that professors give their students. "An incomplete means something fundamentally different than an F. I will continue to fight this problem as long as I am here or until it is fixed," he said.

The new smoking policy is not a "smoking ban"

Dear Editor:

Let me please clarify something! The new smoking policy which becomes effective on January 1, 2008 is **NOT** a smoking ban, but a revised smoking policy. The new policy states *"Smoking at Lyndon State College is restricted to designated campus parking lots only."*

If this was a smoking ban, the college would **BAN** smoking from the entire campus instead of designating specific areas. I would gladly share the names of the Colleges and Universities in the US that **have banned** smoking from the entire campus, which LSC is **NOT** doing.

I ask the Critic to stop referring to the new Smoking Policy as a Smoking Ban. Your headline in the September 21, 2007 issue *"Smoking to be banned from campus in Jan."*, surely got everyone's attention, but is false information.

Brenda Sweet, LSC
Health & Safety Committee

Smoking policy support

Dear Editor,

The piece you wrote about the new smoking ban is good news to me. I have grown up with a smoker or two in my life. It is very hard for me to stand near anyone who is smoking without wanting to puke. The smell is very nauseating and I feel like my lungs are being coated with this icky, sticky mess and that I'll choke.

I know many people don't approve of this new ban, both smokers and non-smokers, because the new ban moves the smokers to the parking lot, where someone's car can get damaged because a smoker might be drunk. I don't like that idea, but it's the only other place for the smokers to go, unless the school purchases some more gazeboes to use as smoking huts. This would be an alternative to moving the smokers to the parking lot. I would just like to see something done about the smoking. I hate having to walk to class and walk through a cloud of smoke. It really bothers me, and brings back that nauseating feeling.

Smokers feel that they should be able to smoke anywhere, but I don't feel the same way. I feel that if they can't follow the current rule of smoking at least 25 feet away from any building on campus, then they shouldn't be allowed to smoke on campus at all. Until they start following the current rule, then the new ban should come into effect January first.

In conclusion, people who do not follow rules, especially about smoking, should not be allowed to complain about any new rules that the school sets up. Hopefully this new rule will help.

Emily Anthony, Freshman

Enforce the old rules before instituting new ones

Dear Editor,

I'm writing about the smoking ban. Although, I'm not a smoker I can see why smokers might be outraged. I don't feel that the smokers are that much of a problem now. Although they don't stand 25 feet from building, I haven't found them to be out of control.

I also haven't seen anyone enforcing the smoking rules that the school has now. Until they start enforcing those, I feel they have no right to change. I could see them changing the rules if people were still breaking them, after strict enforcement, but that doesn't happen now.

At my old school we had "butt huts." They were assigned spots on campus that were for smokers. They had benches built in, and a spot to put out the cigarettes. I found this to be an excellent way for smokers and non-smokers. Having people smoking wasn't an issue.

If the reason they're changing the rules now is because groups of student are complaining, because they are too sensitive this could be a solution that's affordable. We already have gazebos if we put some more around and put some benches in them I bet smokers would be happy to smoke in there rather than walk all the way to the parking lot.

Sincerely,
Cara Dolan, Sophomore

New smoking policy is an issue of respect

Dear Editor,

I am responding to the article published a few weeks back about the smoking ban on campus. Although the opinions are strong by students on both sides of the argument and both have valid arguments, the facts prove that secondhand smoke is hazardous to those that do not pick up the dirty habit.

According to research conducted by the New York City Government, approximately 3000 people die in New York every year from second hand smoke. I know I didn't spend $15,000 or more in tuition to come to campus and be walking through screens of smoke. I'm here for my career and my future, a future mind you without lung cancer. It's only fair to the rest of us that choose not to smoke that we are not forced to inhale what we purposely try to avoid.

Many smokers that I talk to say that they wish they could quit and they wish they had never started smoking. I've often heard the statement, "don't smoke like I do! I wish I could quit." With that said and many agreeing with that statement, don't you think that the people around you want to be treated with respect by being strong and heeding your warning to not follow in your footsteps? If you're telling someone not to smoke, and smoking a cigarette right in front of that same person while giving this advice, then you are being hypocritical.

Many people don't realize that this is a ban that is starting to show up in more places than on college campuses. Restaurants seem to be a very common example. Unless you can find a restaurant that has a smoking section, you would be considered rude and probably kicked out of most if you decided to light up after your meal at the table. Professional work settings are another example. When we leave Lyndon State, graduate, and are in the work force, are the smokers going to complain that they can't have a cigarette while at work? Granted, we are not allowed to smoke inside the buildings here, and most building anywhere you go don't allow smoking inside, but aren't you creating the same hazards outside that you would inside? It's not like we are asking everyone on campus that smokes to quit. We are just asking that you stay a safe distance away from those who choose not to for our health. It's a matter of respect.

The talk around campus has turned non-smokers against smokers and that's not how it needs to be. Everyone needs to get their opinions out there and be heard. It's going to be a give-get situation but we are all mature adults now. We all have strategic thinking skills. We all hold within us the power of our opinion. What we need to learn is how to express those opinions in a respectful and appropriate way and find a happy medium with those who think and feel different from us. Once we accomplish this, the health, safety, respect, and understanding of everyone on campus will improve. Whether we want to admit it or not, we are all in this together, we are here to better ourselves, we all have goals. Let our first goal be to get along and solve this very controversial argument in the nicest and most efficient way possible.

Sincerely,

Amber Hartman, Freshman

Student thanks Health & Safety Committee for making smokers take a hike

Dear Editor,

This smoking ban is one that is badly needed. The smell of cigarette smoke makes its way up into the windows of the fourth floor of the residence hall where I live. The smell is so rancid and overpowering that it is impossible to ignore. It is especially bad when the moisture levels in the air are high. I think this ban is a helpful act of consideration for those on campus who haven't picked up this unhealthy habit and don't want to reap the benefits of secondhand smoke, no matter how far away the smokers are.

The bottom line is that people don't respect themselves when it comes to smoking, no matter how they started. It's an addiction, sure, but all addictions start somewhere. People who haven't broken the addiction or don't care altogether aren't helping the rest of the school's population that do care about their individual health. So I ultimately commend the LSC Health and Safety Committee for making the smokers take a hike, literally.

It is some walk to get off campus where smoking is permitted, and that will be the cardio that the smokers receive before they plague their lungs with tar, fiberglass, rat poison, and other countless chemicals. But some people will not comply with the regulations. There will without a doubt be those rebels who don't feel like leaving campus to smoke, and won't. But what happens to them is their own business, just like smoking; I thank LSC for getting the smoke out of my business. Sincerely,

William Myers, Freshman

Student gives Jordan Royer advice about his "Holy Sheet" advice column

Dear Editor,

Jordan Royer's column needs to be written better. Neither the LSC student body nor I need to know about Jordan Royer's nightly routines before he goes to bed. It would not be that bad if he could back his opinion up with facts and other peoples' opinions; I would like it if he kept his sexual life to himself. I do not care to know about his ways of speeding up his ejaculation when he masturbates nor do I care about what he thinks about porn.

Using quotes in the column would make it stronger. He can have fake names for people who want to remain anonymous, and add an asterisk (*) at the bottom saying, "Actual names have been changed" or something similar. It would be great if Jordan could cite books he has read or quotes from books. Despite my criticism, I do find his articles rather interesting and funny at times. I support his column and his advice, along with his freedom of speech, but to make his column stronger, he should add facts and actual opinions.

Alaina Delabruere, Freshman

Royer's "Holy Sheet" column is not funny

Dear Editor,
Frankly the column entitled "Holy Sheet" is ridiculous. It's a mockery of a student created newspaper that is supposed to inform its readers about the happenings surrounding them. I just don't understand how the topic is relevant to the college society. I understand how sex is a part of the college lifestyle; however I don't think reading about the author's coming of age for the discovery of masturbation is educational for its readers. Reading about the influences and benefits of watching pornography is simply not educational; it does not better students' minds. It wasn't even funny. The previous issue of *The Critic* had another article entitled Holy Sheet, which was indeed humorous; however it did not cross the line. This issue's Holy Sheet was simply raunchy. I, for one, will not continue reading the Holy Sheet or *The Critic* for that matter if it is filled with this sort of literature.
Sincerely,
Randee Hutchinson

LSC may be going green

BY ERIC DOWNING

Not all groups have to be big to make a difference. Lyndon State's Students for Campus Conservation club is proving that. Only two members showed up to last Wednesday's meeting. So far, they've had a maximum of five members at any one meeting, but president Kurt Heinchon assures us that those numbers don't tell the whole story. "We also have idea contributors who just can't make meetings," Heinchon said. Indeed, there seems to be more to this club than just the work of a few people.

The Students for Campus Conservation, or SCC, is a reincarnation of the practically dead natural science club started several years back. Heinchon and others adopted the club, revising the constitution and immediately getting to work. The SCC's original aim was to promote general sustainability, but soon realized that one club can't do everything at once, so they changed their focus to recycling as a first step. Recycling is easy and important "It's in your face," Heinchon said.

The club is currently working to install big recycling bins around the major buildings on campus, so that the smaller bins can be placed in each suite in the residence halls. A member of the club, Danielle LaPointe, compared prices and sizes of different bins on her laptop, while Heinchon explained how they could benefit the campus. Having these bins in each suite will encourage students to drop empty bottles and cans into the bins instead of just tossing them in the trash. "[The] 'out of sight, out of mind' mentality is a problem," Heinchon said. "It's the campus culture we're trying to change." This change would also benefit the college as a whole, because the school is charged by the ton to dump garbage, whereas there isn't a charge for recyclables.

A long-term goal of the club is to incorporate sustainability into LSC campus life. The inspiration for this comes from Castleton's "Green Plan." The plan, started by a CSC professor Paul Derby, promotes "thinking green" in a big way, going as far as changing the student handbook. One example Heinchon gave was that all first year students are required to participate in "Green Mondays", a recycling pick-up program, in their equivalent of LSC's INT class. Heinchon is really excited about LSC adopting a similar program saying, "This is a huge step."

In addition to working on getting Lyndon State its own "Green Plan," the club is busy on other projects. They briefly discussed an upcoming sales idea to promote the club, as well as a contest to design a logo for the club. Most striking, however, was that members of the SCC take turns collecting the recycling from the bins all around campus. Although this is a great service to the campus, the SCC is not content to let it stop at that. Heinchon is determined to bring the Green Plan to LSC. "You work on contests, which is really cool," Kurt said, showing pictures of a residence hall on Castleton State College that won a green contest.

Coming Soon: President of the SCC writes a column for the Critic

Royer shouldn't be dismissed because his column shouldn't offend anyone

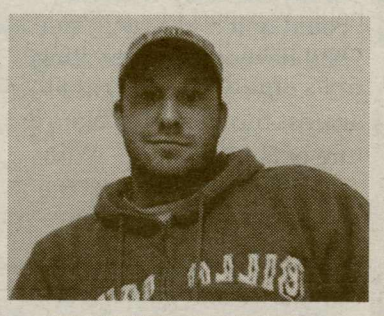
Dear Editor:

This letter is not to praise or criticize something I have recently read in the critic. Instead, I write urging you to keep Mr. Royer's column as a regular column in the critic, in light of Professor Norris' recent campus wide e-mail. I read Professor Norris' e-mail and was shocked about some of the things she had to say, especially calling for Mr. Royer's dismissal. To Professor Norris' defense I do think she made some good points, or at the very least had some good thoughts especially in regards to the community looking at the column as being offensive. It is true that the public could potentially see the column as offensive, and may decide not to support the college in certain ways. I do believe LSC can't afford to lose support from the community. However, any strides Professor Norris may have made in her letter were lost due to her last comment— suggesting Mr. Royer should be expelled. It is flabbergasting to me that Professor Norris would suggest his dismissal before she would suggest the cancellation of the column. I have read Mr. Royer's columns and I admit they are not the greatest or most moving material I've ever read, but I do feel it serves a purpose; or at the very least should not be overly offensive to anyone. I really don't think Mr. Royer sat down and decided he was going to go out and try to offend people. I think Mr. Royer's intentions were to write a light-hearted column, and possibly give some advice while gaining writing experience. We are after all in a college environment which typically is a place for learning and self expression. What kind of message are we sending to students if this column is banned? Are we suggesting to them that you can say what you want as long as people don't find it offensive?

Sincerely,

Nathan Robarge, Freshman

Holy Sheet



BY JORDAN ROYER

Is Stress Keeping You Down?

Believe it or not, I have been a little stressed out lately. Between working full time, going to school full time and getting interviewed by, it seems like just about everyone, I have pretty much reached my peak of stress toleration. People encounter different levels of stress in their lives and they experience different side effects caused by stress. During my recent stretch of, 'oh my gosh I think I am going to die,' I have encountered a few new things that had me asking questions. Never, ever, have I lacked a sex drive but over the past week or so I find myself, well, I'll just be honest, shaking my head about my sex life.
As you all know, I am not a sex doctor so when I find myself in a little "funk" I don't have all the answers. Luckily for me I have some good friends that I am comfortable talking with. Friends are important when it comes to sexual questions. Obviously there are questions you are embarrassed to ask a complete stranger or even your partner, so I encourage you to find a friend or someone you feel comfortable talking to. A friend might not always have the answer but they might be able to steer you in the right direction. I know for me, just having someone that will listen makes things easier.
While talking with a buddy of mine about my increased stress, he recommended I did a little research. We did some searching online and found a number of articles about sex and stress. An article on softpedia.com said, "stress impairs sex life and induces sterility. Stress accumulated at work is linked to early menopause, sterility and higher risk of miscarriage in women." This was a big shocker to me. I figured stress could cause some difficulties in ones sex life, but I never realized the effects it could have on both men and women. About.com says, "Sex can be a great stress reliever, with the physical and emotional release, bonding, and release of endorphins. However, at times stress can actually prevent us from being 'in the mood'."
While searching for answers I realized, I am probably not the only one out there with questions. I encourage everyone to find someone to talk to if they have a question, no matter how embarrassing it may be. With that, I will also say this, if you have a question and don't know where else to turn, ask me via email at jordan.royer@lyndonstate.edu. I don't have all the answers, but I will do my best to point you in the right direction. Don't be afraid to ask, because if you wait, it might be too late!
While I was on the topic of asking questions I decided to ask some of my fellow students a question- What is one thing you don't want to hear from someone from the opposite sex?
The top response from guys was, "I'm pregnant," while in a close second was "are you in yet?"
The women I asked didn't have responses so directly connected with sex. The top answer from girls was "you look fat in that," or anything along the lines of "you're ugly."

Tip of the Week: Be honest with your partner, but choose your words wisely.

Position of the Week: The Electric Chair

Students experience Salem during Halloween preperations

By Trish Pennypacker
Special to the Critic

Last Saturday I shuffled out of the house earlier than usual, excited that I was finally going to experience Salem, Mass. in October. The falling leaves had left nearly bare branches and the morning mist provided just the right amount of mysticism to start my day. Arriving at the college, I joined the sleepy crowd of students and waited for my turn to board the bus.

As a non-traditional student, traveling with only two other non-traditionals, I didn't know what to expect: a noisy ride maybe? Ghoulish costumes? The ride was neither noisy (most people were zoned in their music) nor was anyone in costume (aside from a few black capes). It seemed like it might be a quiet day, a perfect day to stroll though museums and tourists attractions.

As soon as the bus rolled into Salem my view changed. Goblins, witches (more witches than I have ever seen), and gothic creatures roamed elbow to elbow through the streets. The Witch Museum was the first museum in sight and the line extended down the street and around a corner. People were everywhere. Even the vendors were busy!

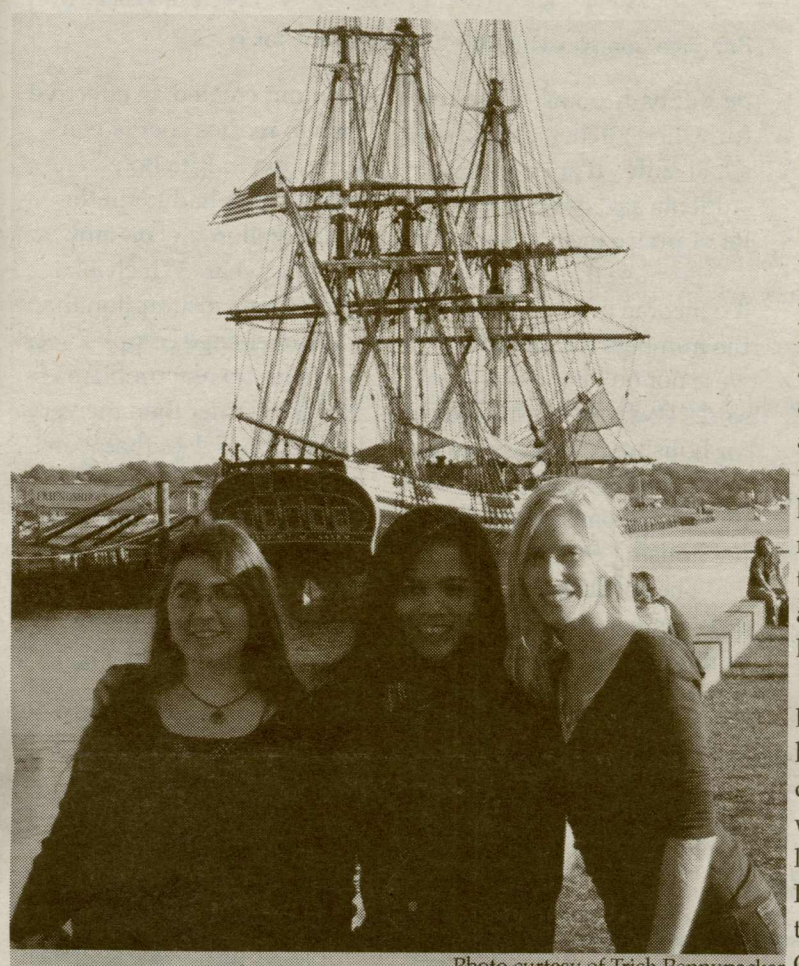


Photo curtesy of Trish Pennypacker
Elizabeth Conklin, Marilou Kozak, and Trish Pennypacker by the water.

Many students opted to skip the museums and shop instead. Tim Hanns, a graphic design/digital media student thought that the admission prices to the museums were too expensive. He found more enjoyment watching a "group of cannibals devour dismembered bodies" in between the vendors on the cobble stoned streets. This was only one of many "reenactments" of Salem lore or history. Some of these reenactments were convincing. I am still unsure if the man and women that screamed "Repent! You are all going to hell!" was part of a reenactment from the Salem witch trials or if they were actually against the current "pagan" lure of Salem itself.

Trying to get beyond the lure of witch hysteria, I hoped to stroll through the cemeteries and gain a feel of what Salem might have been like in the 1600's. The closest I came to this was when I toured The House of Seven Gables and the Nathaniel Hawthorne House. Though impressive, if you are capable of letting your mind go to another place and time, the $12 admission left much to be expected and little to be found. The modern railings, air conditioners, light fixtures, rubber floor mats, and Plexiglas covered wallpaper, not to mention the couple of "witches" that were in the tour, kept me from experiencing the "mood" of the 1600's; although I did feel privileged to walk, for 15 minutes, the same halls Hawthorne walked through. Knowing that the view of the harbor was not the same view Hawthorne would have seen as he looked out the window (the house had been moved to the harbor from blocks away by the Salem Historical Society), and that the furniture was not his furniture, though authentic to the time period was equally disappointing. I took more enjoyment in the harbor itself, which is where I sat for a while, chatting with my friends while watching other tourists walk by.

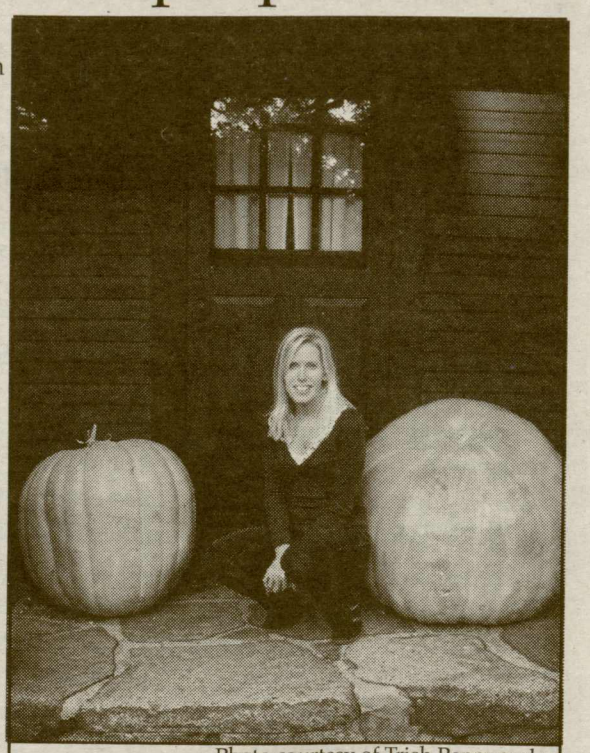


Photo courtesy of Trish Pennypacker
Trish Pennypacker next to some big pumpkins.

All the walking, food, and entertainment made the day pass quickly. With still too much to see, and, like many other students, not wanting to spend more money, I left Salem realizing that I had only experienced one aspect of the city. Maybe someday, when the leaves are green and the tourists are few, I can go back and stroll through the museums and cemeteries without bumping into the Halloween crowd, but for most of the students, I believe this is what makes Salem so "bewitching".

LSC Talent Show auditions seem promising

By Amanda Wozniak
Critic Staff

The talent show auditions held on Sunday brought in 10 acts from the LSC community. "Usually everyone that auditions makes the cut, we just want to make sure it's not obscene, said Hayley LaPoint.

Hayley LaPoint, AMS Treasurer, and Richard Maliawco Jr., AMS Public Relations headed the auditions from 10:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m. in the Alexander Twilight Theater.

The first act arrived at 11:42 a.m. Brian Brooks', an LSC freshman, act was "glow sticking." The audition was performed without music but he said it would be performed with Techno music for about five minutes.

LSC freshman Christina Knapik was the next to audition. She played the acoustic guitar and sang "Half Love Song," in German.

Thomas Hurd, a senior, sang "Hey there Delilah," by Plain White T's. He also played an acoustic guitar. Jordyn Fitzpatrick, an LSC freshman, sang a cappella. The title of the song was "Losing Game."

Knapik wasn't the only one to sing in a different language. Beth Card, a junior, sang "Velvet Underworld" by Weiss Kreuz in Japanese. "I love that song," said Card at the end of her audition, "I've been singing it since I was 14."

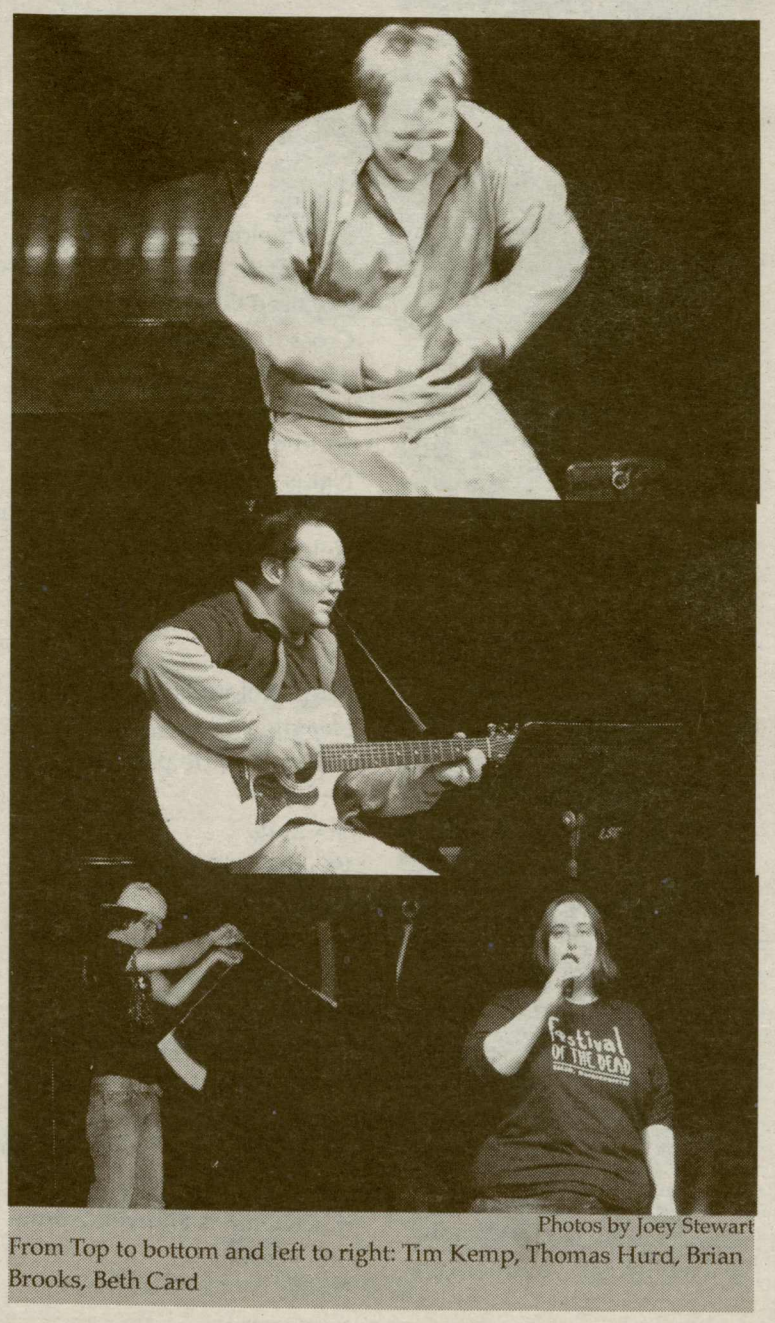
One of the returning auditions was performed by Timothy Kemp. He did a solo dance to Run D.M.C.'s "It's Tricky." Next was the first two person act consisting of Scott Maistros, a freshman, playing the acoustic guitar and Jordan Sherman, also a freshman, on vocals. They performed "Wonderwall" by Oasis.

The only band to audition was Solotron 13. Miek Rock played bass, Patrick Kildea played drums, Andrew Glynn and Charles Storrow both played electric guitars. They write original music and have only been playing together for three weeks.

Phil Viens, LSC sophomore, sang "Be Like That" by 3 Doors Down a cappella. He plans to sing with background music in the talent show. Josh Redinger and Joe Reedy were the last act to perform within the scheduled audition time. Redinger played an acoustic guitar, while Reedy did the vocals. The performed "Collide" by Howie Day. They hope to have Christopher Arsenault join them if they perform in the talent show. Arsenault would play piano and sing.

LSC's Dance Team was to audition at 6:00 p.m. Sunday night.

The Talent Show will be held on December 1, at 7:00 p.m. by AMS. It is a fundraiser for the Northeastern Storm Conference, the largest student-run conference in the nation. It will be judged by a panel of judges consisting of faculty and staff as well as one AMS officer and one student picked from the audience at random. Prizes have not yet been decided.



Photos by Joey Stewart
From Top to bottom and left to right: Tim Kemp, Thomas Hurd, Brian Brooks, Beth Card

Birth control price jump raises concern

By Gwen Cook
Special to the Critic

The 50 plus women a year who purchase birth control pills from the Brown House are seeing a major jump in prices.

"Access to affordable contraceptives should be a necessity, not a luxury for all of our students," Miriam Simon, a physician's assistant at the Brown House, said. "It shouldn't be an issue."

"Lyndon used to sell students the monthly pack of Ortho-Tricyclen Lo birth control pills for $5," Simon said. The pills are now being sold at $10 for a one-month pack but the price might have to be increased to around $20. Pills are usually sold in six month dosages so in actuality students would be paying between $60-$120 a visit. That's a cost most college students would be reluctant to pay.

Birth control pills are used as a pregnancy prevention technique. They are also used to control irregular periods and treat polycystic ovaries.

A major concern of Simon's in regards to the rising cost of birth control is that women will decide to stop using the pills and opt for another method such as the "morning after" pill, which isn't nearly as effective.

Price hikes are the direct result of changes in the Medicaid rebate program included in the 2005 Deficit Reduction Act, which took effect January 1. Simon is urging anyone interested to contact their Congressmen and voice their opinion on this issue.

Senator Bernie Sander's Vermont office:
Contact: Kelly Lucci (800) 339-9834

Senator Patrick Leahy's Vermont office:
Contact: Maggie Gendron or John Tracy (802) 229-1601

Congressman Peter Welch's Vermont office:
Contact: Patricia Coates (888) 605-7270

Rita Bole debt goes into 2035

By Thomas Borck
Critic Staff

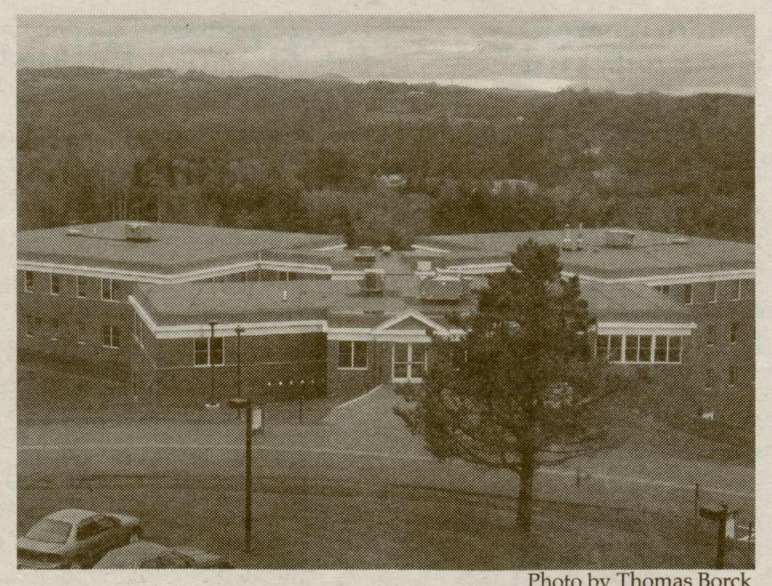


Photo by Thomas Borck
Rita Bole Complex will take 30-years to pay for.

Rita Bole, the newest building on campus, falls under scrutiny when LSC begins talking about the construction of other buildings.

Rita Bole has a 30-year mortgage that costs approximately $490,000. That makes up more than half of the approximate $930,000 of housing payments every year.

This is the annual cost that will be paid until the year 2020 unless LSC acquires more debt in the process of building new buildings. That would set the time tables back depending on how much the school can afford to pay per year.

With Rita Bole taking up over half of the housing costs one must ask, was the building worth it? Wayne Hamilton, Dean of Administration, readily said yes, he thinks that the building is bringing in enough revenue to support itself and help pay for the maintenance of other buildings. The higher costs associated in living in Rita Bole are because of the privacy of living in single rooms, having a pair of bathrooms, and a fully furnished kitchen shared by a small suite. It appeals to the students and has gathered a lot of praise over Stonehenge.

Because the college totals the income of all the housing, the numbers for just Rita Bole were not on hand. Hamilton said, "(We) break even overall for housing." which is amazing seeing the amount of debt the college pays just toward the housing complexes.

The construction of Rita Bole came to roughly $6.9 million. During the construction of the building Efficiency Vermont created an effective plan to reduce energy consumption in Rita Bole. The college only had to fill the 15,000 gallon fuel oil tank once last year. Which is much less consumption than the Stonehenge complex sees.

With no real problems financially other than the very large sum of debt that won't be paid off until about the year 2035, Hamilton said that college housing is in good shape. He also stated that the college was not planning on expanding their housing for a while.

All you ever wanted to know about the game lacrosse

By Lauren Potter
Special to the Critic

Lacrosse, a sport where a ball is thrown with a stick It goes into a goal. The team with the most goals wins.

Even though lacrosse has evolved over the years from its original versions played in Native American tribes to the slightly more complicated contact version that will be played at Lyndon State College this spring for the first time in a quarter century, the basic principles are the same.

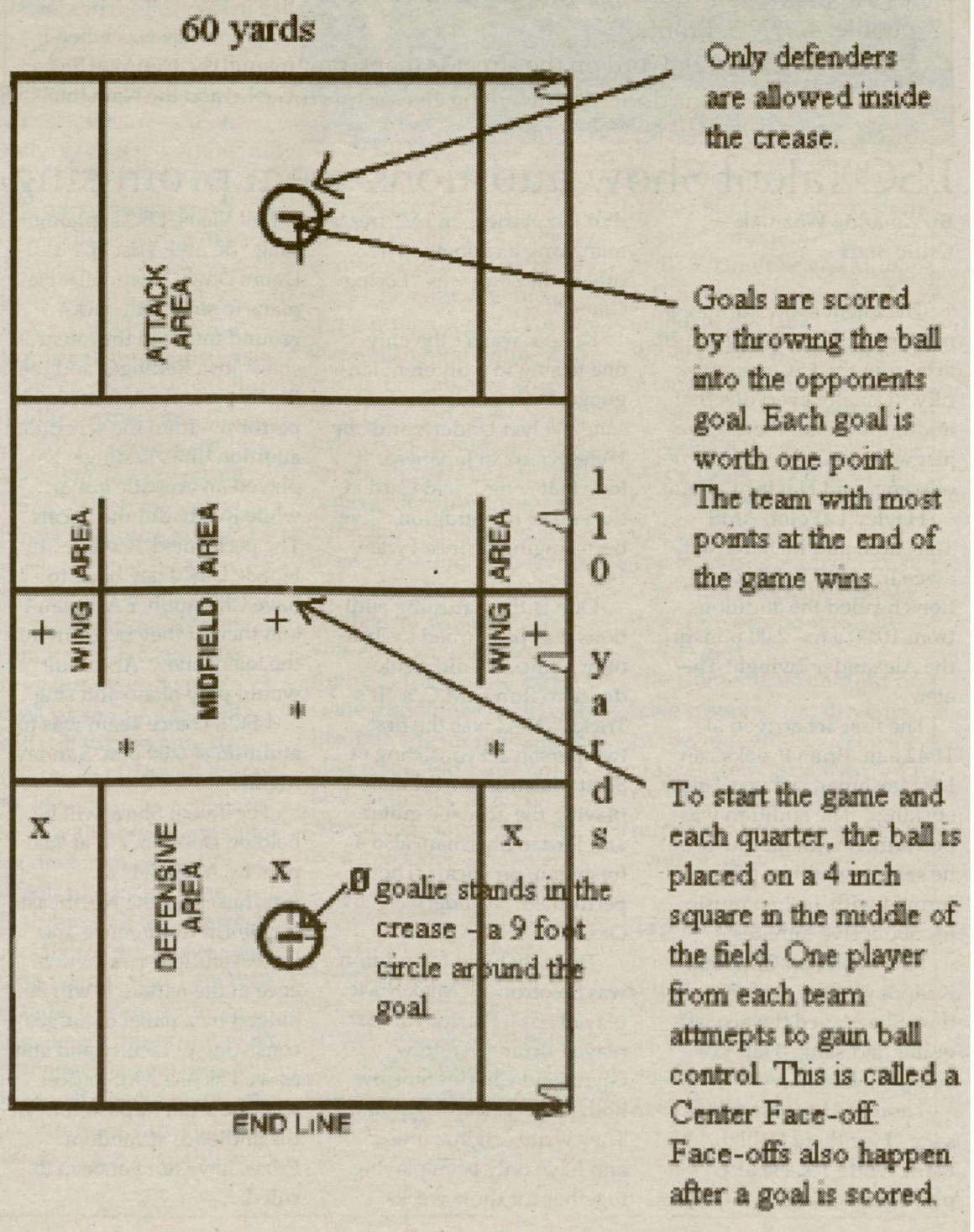
Photo courtesy of lyndonstate.edu
Lacrosse was originally played by Native Americans

Players:
-10 to a side
-1 goalie (ø)
– defends against opposing shots on goal
-3 defensemen (x)
– defend goal area and goalie from opponents
-3 attack men (+)
– attempt to score on other team
-3 midfielders (*)
– play both offense and defense

Required Gear:
-Crosse – Lacrosse stick
*Can be 40-72 inches long,
*Has netted head for catching, throwing, running with ball
*Net is 6.5-10 inches wide for fielders, 10-12 inches for goalie
-Helmet with a face mask
-Shoulder pads (except goalie)
-Throat and chest pads (only goalie)
-Bright colored mouth guard
-Heavily padded gloves
*Arm and rib pads and protective

The Ball:
-Weighs 5-5.25 ounces
-Hard rubber

The Game:
-Collegiate games are 60 minutes long
-Only the goalie can touch it with his hands
-Four 15 minute quarters
-2 minute breaks between quarters, 10 minute halftime
-Each team is allowed 2 timeouts per half



"Johnny five... is... alive. John five is ALIVE! JOHNNY FIVE IS ALIVE!!! But HAL 9000 is dead."

Earth-Friendly Word Find (be sure to recycle this paper, please)

V	B	V	X	D	F	W	C	A	L	C	T	Q	A	V	A	I	K	Q	F	R	U	E	T	C
R	C	X	J	L	F	M	A	V	W	G	X	S	D	N	C	H	U	W	A	V	R	B	L	R
F	E	W	H	X	H	A	M	Z	D	A	X	S	J	D	Q	L	J	C	J	U	C	H	A	E
W	X	C	U	Z	X	X	P	T	Q	F	R	T	D	P	U	C	F	O	T	E	L	N	H	S
X	A	K	Y	X	K	U	A	X	N	Z	H	E	A	I	W	A	L	A	R	T	Y	J	S	O
W	U	R	Q	C	K	J	I	K	Z	E	L	Z	N	L	X	M	N	M	I	Y	Y	Z	H	U
O	E	X	N	U	L	L	G	R	G	X	P	N	C	E	G	P	T	O	B	L	U	M	B	R
M	H	Q	L	X	J	E	N	A	H	V	U	J	L	L	S	U	A	P	O	K	G	J	M	C
C	O	N	S	E	R	V	A	T	I	O	N	Z	K	Y	F	S	C	G	Z	O	Y	T	T	E
X	B	G	S	X	A	T	T	D	B	U	E	H	O	S	C	I	E	N	C	E	Y	D	A	N
E	L	J	N	G	Z	J	Q	P	U	O	U	H	F	N	R	Z	G	D	I	N	I	W	S	S
R	X	V	Q	L	G	U	I	L	R	D	T	W	D	S	L	M	H	Q	K	G	U	Q	O	O
B	O	J	R	O	Y	U	K	A	C	S	B	T	R	O	A	D	K	I	L	L	C	R	J	B
L	R	T	C	B	P	N	B	N	F	M	H	E	L	F	K	B	H	Q	W	W	X	Z	J	P
S	U	S	T	A	I	N	A	B	I	L	I	T	Y	E	B	K	W	J	J	N	Y	R	J	N
A	T	C	Z	L	L	L	E	K	I	V	R	G	Z	Q	S	O	V	A	W	W	S	I	M	S
N	P	U	E	V	M	J	G	R	E	E	N	U	W	A	S	T	E	X	F	S	E	H	N	T

Word List

Conservation Sustainability Green Nature Global Resource Recycle Waste Bottles Science Campus Awareness Plan Campaign

HOROSCOPES! Less mean than last week!

ARIES (3/21-4/19): You will find yourself victim to the setting of the shower known as "piercing needles of death."

TAURUS (4/20-5/20): You may discover that you are more susceptible to strangulation injuries this week. Be careful.

GEMINI (5/21-6/21): It's 3:00. You are on a south-bound train from Venice. At the same time, your true love is on a west-bound train in San Fransisco. In other words, you will never meet.

CANCER (6/22-7/22): Be sure to bump into as many people as you can while traversing the halls. Maybe one will drop money.

LEO (7/23-8/22): 1. Change your name. 2. Move to Arkansas. 3. Buy a poodle. 4. ???? 5. Profit.

VIRGO (8/23-9/22): Word on the street is that strange smells have wafted out from under your door. Reduce drug use or be sure to shower more often, whichever one is the problem.

LIBRA (9/23-10/22): Don't you hate it when the floor in front of the toilet is wet and you aren't sure why? I suggest you investigate this phenomenon.

SCORPIO (10/23-11/21): You will find a kitten in your luggage. Name it Wilbur. Teach it to sing, then sign it up for a gig on Broadway.

SAGITTARIUS (11/22-12/21): Beware of fatal mis-pronouncing speech in the week ahead. It won't be written up as mere Freudian slips.

CAPRICORN (12/22-1/19): Check your email every ten minutes over the next 33 days. Very time-sensitive messages will find their way in there, and you'll regret the result befalling you from reading them too late.

AQUARIUS (1/20-2/18): So you think you can tell heaven from hell; blue skies from pain? Can you tell a green field from a cold steel rail? Good. Your skill with discerning differences will serve you well.

PISCES (2/19-3/20): Oh baby don't feel so down. I feel left out. But it doesn't turn me off. You're loved very very much. Trust me.

STUDENT METEOROLOGIST: Bryan Shaw

Today's forecast for Northeast Vermont including Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans counties. High pressure is allowing for clear skies now but it will not last. Low pressure will make its way into the area by tonight bringing plenty of rain with it. Expect rain showers all day tomorrow with a chance of some leftover showers Sunday morning. Highs for the next few days will be around average for late October. Expect rain totals to reach over an inch.

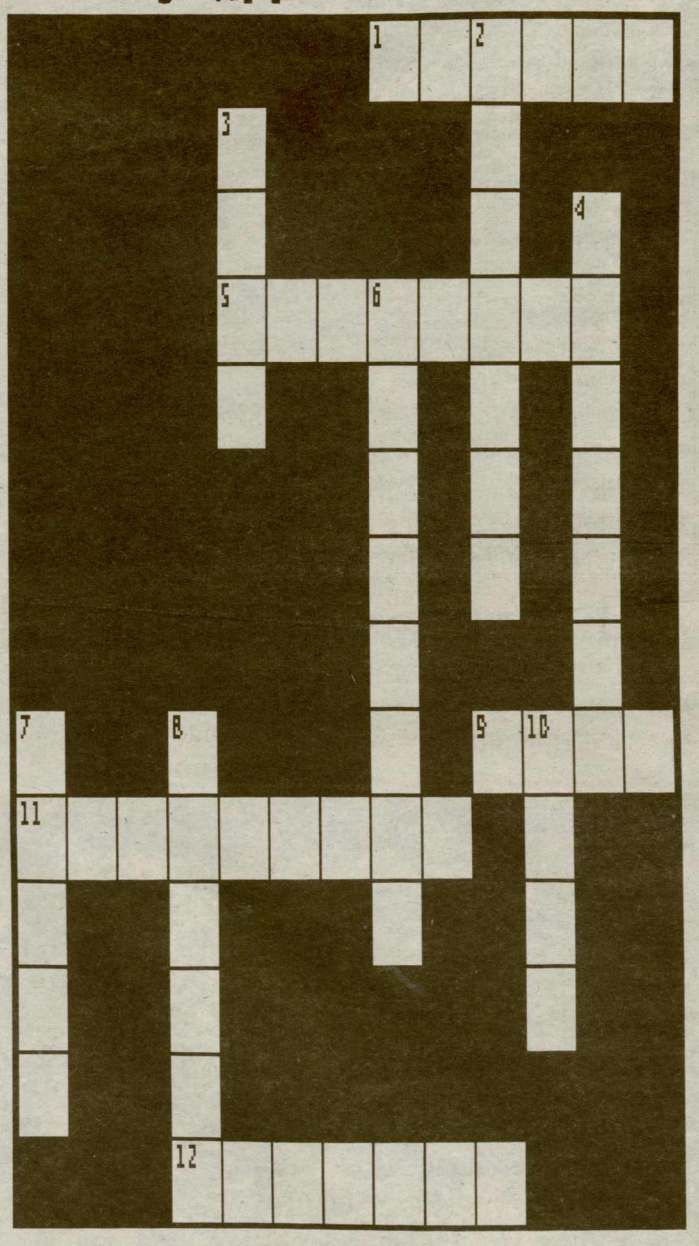
STUMPED!?

For solutions to this week's puzzles as well as last week's, visit our site on the web at www.lyndonstate.edu/critic. You die in the game, you die for real. Additional problems can be obtained from your local internet source.

Suspiciously Easy Sudoku

9	5		4	6				
	8		3	1				9
		4			9			6
		7	2				3	8
		9	5		4	2		
8	2				6	9		
6			1			8		
4				7	8		5	
				5	3		6	4

Nobody-Approved Crossword



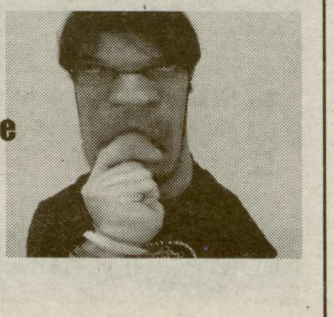
ACROSS

1. The toddler form of felines.
5. The secret word hidden in this week's word find.
9. TV station that publicized Jordan Royer.
11. One of our sister schools.
12. King Horror author.

DOWN

2. First name of the Critic's managing editor.
3. The first name of the SCC's president.
4. Tree Wizard's favorite state. Also first state alphabetically.
6. The 'D' in RHD stands for this.
7. Last name of math teacher out on sabbatical.
8. Where babies come from.
10. Good way to make friends: join a _____.

Puzzles Generated by Overlord of Fun, Eric Downing. I like chips. Please give me some Doritos. Please find controversy in my page so I can be on Channel 3!



By Catherine Story
Special to The Critic

It's getting cold again. That can only mean one thing to those of us with skis or boards waiting by the door. The slopes are opening up for another season of shredding!

This season is a golden opportunity for students to work on their carving, hop into the woods, or pull off that front flip. The local areas are offering sweet deals for student skiers in the NEK.

Whether you're skiing or riding both areas have a lot to offer. Jay is larger but it's an hour drive away. Burke is just fifteen minutes up the road but it doesn't offer the same luxuries that the 60-person tramway at Jay Peak does.

Burke Mountain		Jay Peak
$199	Student Season Pass	$269
$41-43	Student Lift Ticket	$40-45
8 miles	Driving Distance from LSC	48 miles
45	Number of Tralis	76
4	Number of Lifts	8
3	Terrain Parks	4
248"	Average Annual Snowfall	355"
2011	Vertical Feet	2153
1	Peaks	2

The Critic

Serving the student voice of Lyndon State College

One copy free, extras 50 cents each

Lyndonville, Vt. www.lyndonstate.edu/critic Friday, November 2, 2007 Volume 54, Number 6

Trish Pennypacker returns with an essay on finding strength. Pg. 2

Students will be charged $300 per semester to pay $13 million bond

Student reactions mixed

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.
Critic Editor

LSC students will be paying off the $13 million bond LSC has issued to pay for two new construction projects on campus.

Each student will have to pay an extra $300 fee per semester, in addition to tuition and other college fees. Exactly how much an LSC student will have to pay is unknown. Tuition for the fall 2009 semester won't be figured until this coming May, LSC President Carol Moore said.

Student reactions were mixed. "I think expanding the student center would be a good idea," Brandan Kelly, freshman, said. Still, the added $300 wasn't thrilling news. "Being out of state, I'm paying a lot to come here." He added "I don't want to pay more money, but I guess it's a good thing to do."

Other students took a dimmer view of the fee. "I'm fine with HAC right now," Brandi Short, freshman, said. "I don't see why I'm asked to spend $300 on something that doesn't affect me."

"It's annoying," Brian Wheeler, freshman, said. "One, I didn't hear about it, and two, it's expensive enough as it is."

Wheeler would like to go into video game design and doesn't plan on staying at LSC for four years. "It makes me glad I'm not staying the entire four years here," Wheeler said. "The classes aren't worth the added money."

Moore thought the student body as a whole would ultimately approve of the decision. "I think students are going to be fine with the fee considering the benefits they will get from it," Moore said.

The reason for having students foot the bill is due to a lack of state funding. "I think the state has not lived up to its responsibilities in keeping the colleges current," Moore said. "We've got to turn to the students for help with improvements."

The two projects in question are an addition to the student center as well as a new building attached to HAC that will house the meteorology program, along with other programs.

The $13 million bond issue was part of a larger bond, issued by all five VSC schools after it was approved by the VSC Board of Trustees on Oct. 25.

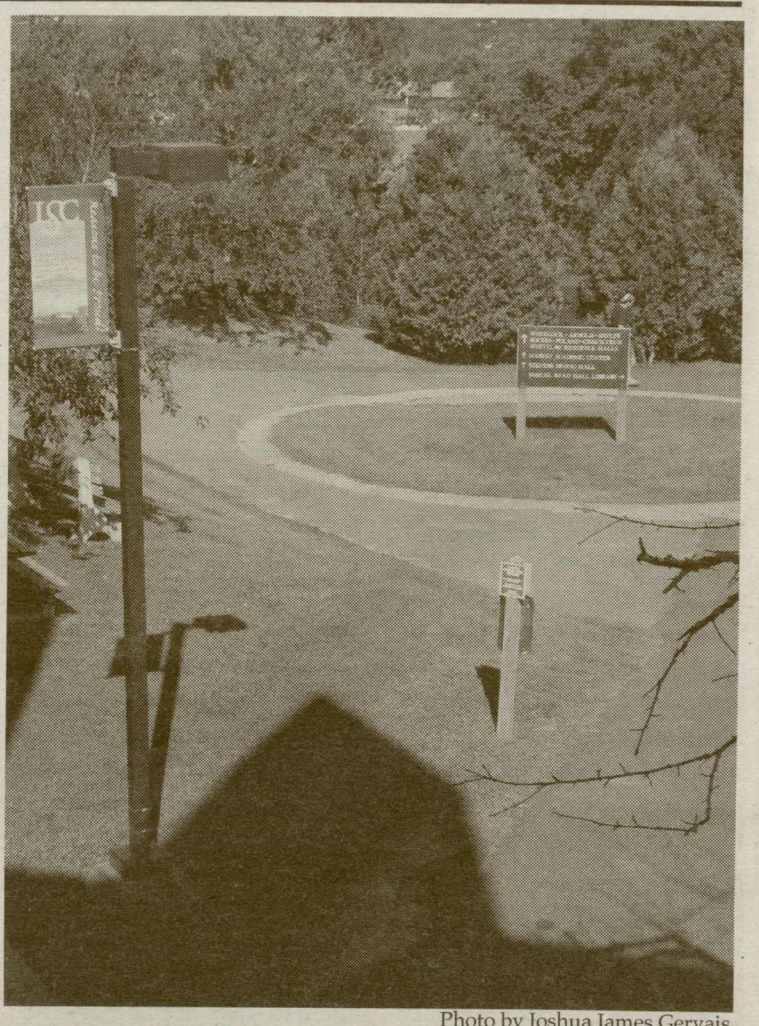


Photo by Joshua James Gervais

One of the construction projects paid for by the bonds will be an extension on the student center. The project will change the look of the area pictured above, and add space for a multitude of activities. The idea is that will be an alternative to using the Alexander Twilight Theatre.

The committee in charge of the plans meets every week, and is constantly updating the design of the future construction projects

Committee formed to create new SGA constitution

Newly formed government begins to take action

By Tabitha Fitzgerald
Managing Editor

The SGA House of Representatives decided to form an ad-hoc committee to review and revise the SGA constitution.

The recent problems with elections and interest in the club are part of the committee's focus.

One of the major issues the committee is going over has to do with the qualifications that are required by the old constitution for students to run for executive positions.

As of now, the requirements to run for an executive SGA are: a student must have a 2.5 grade point average, a student must have a set amount of House or Senate experience depending on the position being run for, they must acquire 50 signatures to be on the ballot, and a completely clean LSC judicial record.

"The problem with having to have a clean record is that anything, a parking ticket or a smoking violation, can make you unable to run for an executive position," Jonathan Maciel, president of the SGA and member of the ad-hoc committee, said. He said that the committee is trying to make this qualification more realistic.

According to Maciel these requirements were the biggest reasons there were problems in getting candidates to run in the fall election.

"A lot of students couldn't make the signature requirement or didn't have the experience necessary to run," Maciel said

The committee is trying to make it possible for students that are interested to run while still making sure they are qualified for the position.

Another area that the committee is working on is salary evaluation. All senate and SGA members are paid. As of now the SGA advisers review the members and evaluate their performance and their salaries.

The committee is working on revising this so that the executive board also reviews them so they are more involved in where SGA money is going, Maciel said.

The committee is also revising the qualifications for the treasurer position. Over the summer the SGA advisors recommended that anyone running for the position of treasurer should go through the business department.

The committee has revised this idea and is suggesting that the student running for this position turn in an résumé that is approved by the business department as well as get the 50 signatures that are required by the current constitution, said Maciel.

The ad-hoc committee has met once since it was formed. They plan on meeting once a week. "We have managed to get through three pages of the constitution," said Maciel.

He is unsure of when the committee will be finished revising the constitution but said that there is no deadline.

Once the committee is finished with their revisions the new purposed constitution will go before the joint session to be voted on. If the joint session approves the changes then the purposed constitution will go before the student body.

"An e-mail with the constitution attached will be sent out through LSC all for students to review," Maciel said.

The new constitution will then appear on the spring ballad to be voted on for next fall semester.

Maciel said that he hoped some of the revisions that are being made will help draw interest to the SGA.

Photo by Joshua James Gervais

The new academic building will wrap around HAC, include a weather observatory, and block Wheelock's view of Stonehenge.

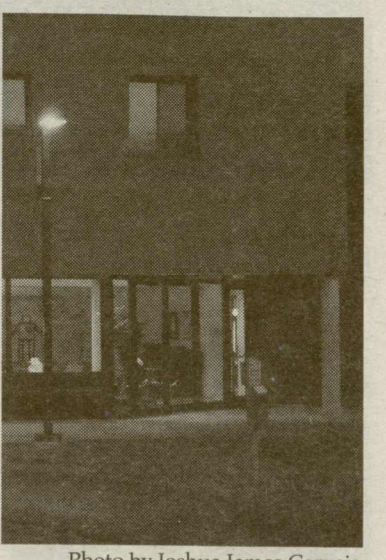


Photo by Joshua James Gervais

Above: Construction of the new buildings will be sure to cause some disruption of the average student's daily routine.

Dente puts pay-as-you-print rumor to justice

By Eric Downing
Critic Staff

The rumor that LSC will institute a pay-as-you-print policy has begun circling around campus.

With the paper piling up needlessly in the 24-hour lab, Assistant Chief Technology Officer Michael Dente has been charged with reducing printer-paper waste on campus. "A lot of it is waste," Dente says. Almost everyone who lives on campus has used the 24-hour lab at least once. During key hours the lab is full of students typing papers and printing them. Sometimes, Dente says, students get impatient and continuously click on "print." This results in the same document being produced multiple times. These extra copies end up in the recycle bin. The problem isn't just paper waste, however. Dente also estimates that the school spends $24,000 a year on toner. To print on the color printer, which was moved from the 24-hour lab to the lab on the Library's second floor, costs 17 cents per page.

Are students going to have to pay as they print? Not exactly. Dente says that if we were to go to pay-as-you-print, students would begin each semester with a quota of around 500 free pages. "This is normal at most colleges," he says. A student would then only have to pay if he or she exceeded that quota. Class-required printing, such as a teacher assigning his or her class to print a reading to bring to class, would NOT count toward the quota.

Dente assures us that he wants to start without a quota. Instead, he plans to set up a system that forces a student, after sending his or her print job to the printer, to have to push a "print and release job" button. This would prevent accidental and needless printing, as jobs would expire by the end of the day. "We want to slow down the amount of printing," Dente says. Another plan in the works is to develop a system that shuts down the computers when no one has been using them to save on energy usage.

Photos by Trish Pennypacker
Trish's children enjoy the Halloween season dressed as a pirate princess and Spider-Man

Students juggle work and school

By Gillian Moore
Special to the Critic

Sometimes it's necessary to work part time when you're in college, but at least there are some fun and interesting jobs open for students around the area.

Erin Keefe, an LSC senior education major, is the student supervisor of the S.H.A.P.E facilities, which include the pool, fitness center, intramurals, and the gym.

"It's a really social setting," Keefe said. "I get to see my friends and talk to them at the same time that I'm getting paid for something I like doing."

Meg Sedore chose a job that is related to her education major – babysitting. "I get $10 an hour and work about 10 hours a week," Sedore said. "I get to get off campus, it's a good job, it's related to what I'm going to school for, and it's flexible."

Flexibility is a plus when students need to work around classes, sports, and homework, which is what Brandi Hussey likes about the Comfort Inn in St. Johnsbury. "They schedule my hours around my schedule, which is awesome," Hussey said. "They are very, very flexible."

Hussey also works at the Wildflower Inn. "When I go to work there I'm instantly in a good mood," she said. "It's such a friendly environment and everyone is happy. It's a really beautiful place."

For those willing to make the drive, many college students work at Applebee's in Littleton, NH. "I like it there," Laura Sullivan, an LSC senior and waitress at Applebee's said. "The people are awesome to work with and there's a large staff, so they don't worry much about taking a day off or calling in sick." Sullivan, a television studies major, said Applebee's gives raises every couple of months.

Some businesses even offer opportunities for advancement while still in college. Olympia Sports, both in Littleton and St. Johnsbury, advance students to management.

Fastenal in Lyndonville is another business that does the same. "They specifically have a program to recruit college students as part-time workers," Linda Mitchell, professor of Business Administration, said. "They give them management training so they can assume more and more responsibility as they progress through college." Dan Travis, an LSC senior, was able to get an internship through them.

McDonald's in Lyndonville is always accepting applications, and the starting pay is about $7.50 an hour. Jenna Tuccillo, an LSC junior television studies major who worked there last year said they hired her right away. "I worked about 20 hours a week. Some weeks more, some weeks less," Tuccillo said. "The job definitely kept me busy."

Finding strength from beneath the leaves

By Trish Pennypacker
Special to The Critic

On a mild October day I watch my daughter, a pirate princess with infinite energy, jump through a pile of leaves and I realize that she is always exactly who she wants to be. In these spirited days of Halloween, she refuses to take off her costume. She insists that she IS a pirate princess, but to be honest, the costume does not wear her, she wears the costume! I doubt she has to hide behind anything. Her world seems free and vast and no matter how much I might try, I cannot subdue the strong willed child that she is, nor do I really want to. Instead I watch her closely, hoping some of her strength, her decisive voice, will rub off on me.

"Come here, Codey!" she laughs. "Come jump in the leaves." From the shadows of the trees, my youngest son appears. He is brave today. He is Spider-Man! My super hero! I watch him leap from woods to leaves. One quick burst of energy and he is rolling and laughing with the Princess, but I cannot help but feel that, for today anyway, the costume makes him brave.

I know all too well the bravery he feels when he pulls the black mask over his face. He is no longer Codey, the youngest of two brothers – brothers that get invited everywhere, are old enough to hunt and fish on their own, and ride bikes just a little bit further down the gravel road. He is no longer just a playmate for the Princess; he is her protector. He will keep her from all danger: he is super fast! He can run faster than the wind and even she can't keep up with him.

I watch them bury each other in leaves. "I bet you can't see us, Mom," they holler. Their excitement turns to whispers and then all is quiet. Aside from the glimpses of webbed elbow and boot buckles, all is still. Waiting, I grow anxious. I want to jump into the pile of leaves and send the kids squealing with fright and youthful delight. I want to follow their costumed legs to the borders of the field, chasing them until they, and I can run no more; but I do nothing but wait. A few leaves rustle; a giggle floats my way, but they are sneaky in ways that I am not and, for the moment, they have impressive patience.

While anticipating a burst of leaves, I realize that I, too, learned to be brave by pretending. As a child I loved to wear my mother's dresses and high heels. I spent hours dancing across squeaky, scratched wooden floors. With each clop, clop of heels my confidence grew. I didn't care when the living room was crowded with overly pert and perfumed church ladies browsing through Tupperware catalogs, or if cold rain pooled in puddles outside. In disguise, I felt important. I could be anyone I wanted to be.

Gradually I became aware that it is really me that people respond to, not the costumes: something greater than my imagination had made me strong inside. It could have been the familiarity of people (like the church ladies) or the experience of life itself (nothing ever stayed scary!) that established my confidence. That I had to find my strength while my daughter was born with hers doesn't matter.

I notice my shoes and smile; they do not belong to my mother or anyone else. They are blessedly mine. Oh, what a revelation: I have come so far in my own skin! A few lines from Galway Kinnell's poem, Lastness come to mind:

"Here, between answer
and nothing, I stand, in the old shoes
flowed over by rainbows of hen-oil,
each shoes holding the bones
that ripple together..."

Shifting my focus back to the leaves, I notice that they are moving and many are being tossed into the air. I brace myself for the blur of red velvet and black, opening my arms to receive this whirlwind of life. My daughter kisses a dozen wet kisses on my cheek. My son stands slightly aloof, but grinning. I grab him and him anyway! "What are you going to be for Halloween?" my son asks me. To tell the truth, I hadn't thought about it.

Sleeping situations depend on neighbors

Dear Editor,

Although I do agree with the point that students are not getting enough sleep from Gwen Cook's article "Students can't seem to get enough sleep under college pressures," I feel that this issue is more than just personal habits. Most students have different times they go to sleep. With thin walls, and noise from the Stonehenge courtyard it can often be difficult to go to sleep when you decide to.

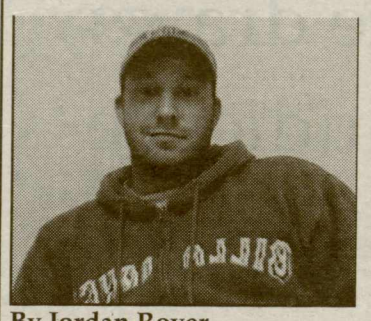
When I have an early morning class I try to make sure I get plenty of sleep. I finish my homework ahead of time, and get ready for bed. I turn off the lights, crawl into bed, and start drifting off to sleep. Once I am just about to drift off, the late night partiers come out. I live in Crevecoeur, and my room overlooks the courtyard. I often get frustrated with the noise level coming from outside. It is impossible to sleep when people are screaming and cheering. The RAs promised to fix the problem, but nothing was ever done. There would be nights when my room was really warm, but I could not open the window because it only makes the noise worse. I only hope that the cold weather will drive people inside.

It is not only the people outside but also members of my suite who keep me up at night. It is not that they are talking loudly or blasting music. The problem is we can tell every time they are having sex. The room next door to mine is a hotbed for sexual activity. Her bed is next to the adjoining wall and we can tell every time her boyfriend is over. The bed makes so much noise my roommate often says, "It sounds like they are building a house in there." It is such a frequent occurrence that all we do is roll our eyes, say "there they go again," and wait for the racket to stop so we can get back to our slumbers.

I will admit that I do go to sleep later than I should on occasion, but it would be nice to be able to sleep when I want to. There is no use in trying to develop a sleeping pattern because my fellow students would make it impossible to follow. Sleeping in college is not determined by personal habits, but by the habits of fellow residents. All I can do is try to sleep through the noise.

Sincerely

Catherine Zaker, Freshman



By Jordan Royer

Holy Sheet

Use it or lose it

Some people go to the gym religiously. I use to be one of those people, but lately I guess you could say I've been a slacker. If you are also a "slacker," don't worry, there are other ways to become healthier.

"Active sex is a good aerobic exercise, which is good for your heart," Dr. Gail Saltz says. "Sex also works out your stomach, back and buttock muscles, leading to greater pleasure with body esteem." Getting a flat stomach is not the easiest of tasks (you all know that if you have seen me), so if sex is a fun and easy way to work out your stomach, it seems like a logical idea.

In the movie 40-Year-Old Virgin, Andy Stitzer (Steve Carell) asks if it's true that if you don't use it, you lose it. Well according to Dr. Saltz it is true, especially for women. "Like other muscles, the vagina is a 'use it or lose it' organ. The more you use your pelvic muscles, the more they stay in shape. And if you don't use them, they will atrophy and sex can become painful." As for males, "having sex may reduce the risk of prostate cancer."

Sex not only can help in an aerobic sense, it may also help you ward off the common cold. According to Dr. Saltz, after sex, the body realizes hormones and will also increase levels of immunoglobin A, an antibody that can help fight off colds. It is also said that you may have an easier time falling asleep after sex and a good night's sleep is very beneficial.

I am in no way saying sex is a better solution to a healthy life than going to the gym, but it sure as heck beats running or lifting. Sex can also build self-esteem and in a college environment, we all know how important that can be. In discussing the health benefits of sex, I also want to reiterate something important, safety. If you choose to have sex, do so responsibly because if you are looking to become healthier, an STD might get in your way. Have some fun but wrap your gun.

Position of the Week: Doggy Style

LSC's smoking policies range from one extreme to the other leaving students to wonder where the happy medium is

I've only been smoking for a little less than two years now so I know how it feels to be on both ends of the opinion of smoking. The current smoking policy and the new smoking policy are both on the extremes for a policy on smoking. One allows smoking virtually anywhere on the campus as long as it is twenty-five feet from the buildings and the other allows smoking virtually nowhere on the campus except for the parking lots.

I agree with the statements made by Cara Dolan, a sophomore, in the previous article about the designated smoking huts. While Brenda Sweet is correct that there are many schools that have completely banned smoking from their respective campuses, there are also many schools that have designated smoking huts on their campuses including smoking allowed in the parking lots. One issue with the huts is students not respecting that these are the designated smoking areas. You can find an article about this in the school newspaper online at San Francisco State University. However, these students weren't initially faced with the possibility of not being able to smoke within the campus at all, they were never asked to smoke in the designated areas when they weren't, and there weren't any benches, shelters, ash trays, or signs showing where the designated smoking areas were at all.

After speaking with several non-smoking students and smoking students alike, they have come to an agreement about designated smoking areas that will work. The main issue is the cigarette butts on the campus and the smoke in the courtyard getting into the buildings. Another issue is with Dinning Hall employees not being able to smoke because they only get five-minute breaks, which are not long enough to walk to a parking lot, smoke a cigarette, and walk back. A third issue is in the winter when we could face very cold, windy, and snowy conditions which quickly cause frost bite in the amount of time it takes to walk from one of the back residence halls in the courtyard to the parking lot if the temperatures are low enough and winds are high enough. After speaking with students that are RAs or working for public safety, a fourth issue came up about them feeling like they are short-handed as it is. They feel this policy will be very difficult for them to enforce and also create much more work for the RAs to keep up with who already have a lot to handle with their current responsibilities, stresses, and schoolwork. A fifth issue came from students whom have already had their cars vandalized and are concerned with an increase in vandalism as people are being forced into the parking lots. These people will be cold, upset, and frustrated so it didn't come as a surprise that, with an increase amount of students in the parking lots and these students feeling frustrated, it could increase vandalism rates of cars in the parking lots.

In light of all of this, I have come up with several areas that would serve well as designated smoking areas including the parking lots and the students that I spoke to agreed that this sounded like a more feasible idea. The current smoking hut should be moved closer to HAC but still on the grass, made larger, and include benches. This will let it fit more people and move it further from the Rogers residence hall. To the right of the dinning hall, there is already a cigarette butt dispenser that is kept away from the flow of traffic. It is already in a good spot and, with some sort of smoking shelter, this will be a good designated smoking area. Near the mailroom parking lot, there is another cigarette butt dispenser. This is in a good spot that is close to the student center and VAIL and, with some sort of smoking shelter, will make for a good designated smoking area besides having one in front of the student center where a majority of traffic moves through. In each parking lot and on the grass, there should be some sort of smoking shelter. This will help protect against the weather elements and encourage smokers to keep the cigarette butts off the parking lot. The parking lot is the first thing that prospective students see so it is important that these areas be kept clean.

In conclusion, this makes the designated smoking areas: the parking lots, to the right of the dinning hall, the Stonehenge smoking hut, and in front of the mailroom/radio station. This keeps the smoke away from the places it isn't wanted, keeps the smoking butts off the ground, keeps vandalism down, makes the jobs easier for public safety and RAs, and gives the smokers a place they can smoke that is away from the flow of traffic and everyone else. Hopefully, this type of approach can be used rather than resorting to using one extreme vs. the other.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Maciel

SGA President

Dramatic preformance draws interaction from the audience

By Heather Perkins
Critic Staff

The recent one-woman play left its audience a serious message of abuse and date-rape. The actress played through a series of strong emotions, up to the point of her "death" and onward.

"It's good to bring light to an often unheard topic on campus," Angie Maxham, LSC senior said.

The "Yellow Dress" was a play based on the true story of a girl named Deana. It was organized by her family to educate students about warning signs to prevent them from falling down the same path as their daughter.

The story started with a girl, Anne, getting ready for a dance and showing the audience her purple dress. She had the small hope of getting her old boyfriend, Rick, back from another girl whom he had hooked up with after she left him.

The couple had been together for a year, and he was "the sweetest guy," but after that year the abuse started. Lightly at first, hits every now and then, jealously, and then he became more and more controlling.

Eventually, it got so bad that one night at a party he tried to choke her and she passed out. When she woke up, he was standing over her talking about her getting dizzy and having to walk outside. That was when things began to get clearer for her. She realized that she could be in serious danger. She broke off their relationship and he began to stalk her. He would call and hang up, and drive outside her dorm.

The actress, Stacy (last name anonymous), changed dresses. The audience gasped in surprise when she walked out and said, "This is my yellow dress. This is what I looked like after he was done with me." The pale yellow dress was covered in blood down her front and her side.

During the scene at the dance Rick asked if he could talk with her. She naively agreed to go with him. He took her for a drive and tried to convince her to take him back, nearly begging. When they stop in the middle of nowhere by a river, she pleads to be taken home, but he said that if he can't have her, no one can. He then proceeded to bash her head into the dashboard and windshield until she was dead. He then dumped her body by the river, covered her in leaves, and drove off.

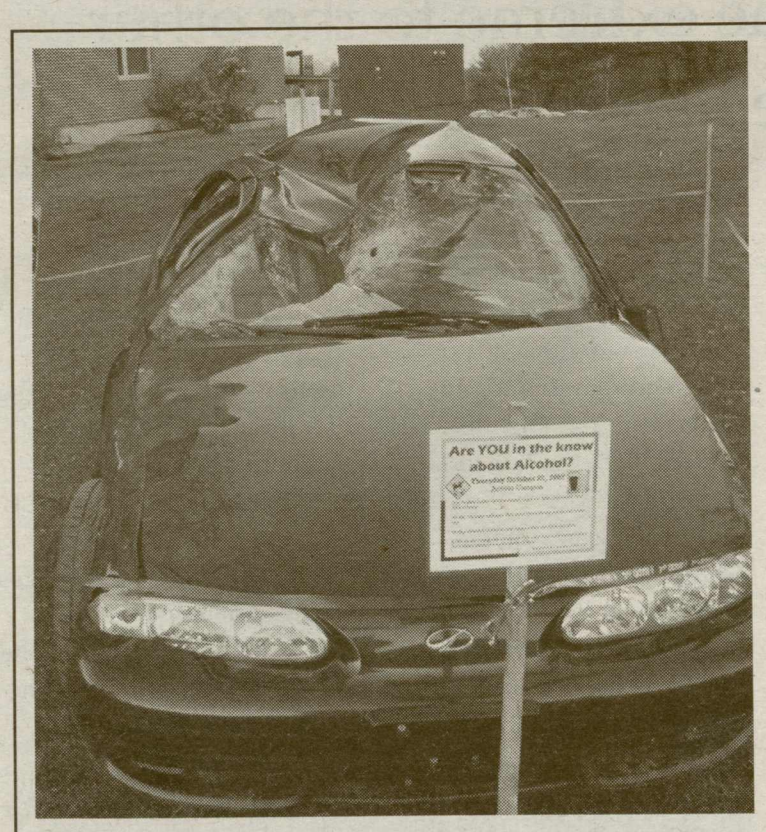
The play was written by Deborah Lake Fortson, originally produced by Sydney Hayes, and produced by the Deana Fund. The actress for the particular performance, Stacy, got involved in it through a friend who informed her about what the play was about, and since, it has become her passion.

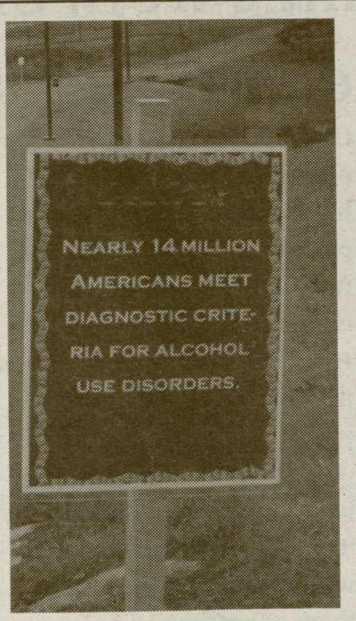
"It was powerful," Brian Wheeler, an LSC freshman, said at the end of the play.

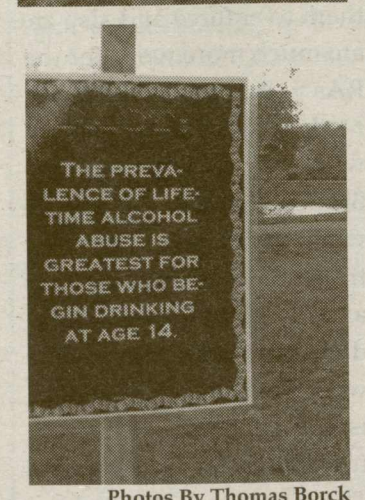
Stacy mentioned that she thought it went pretty well, and was happy with the interaction from the audience.

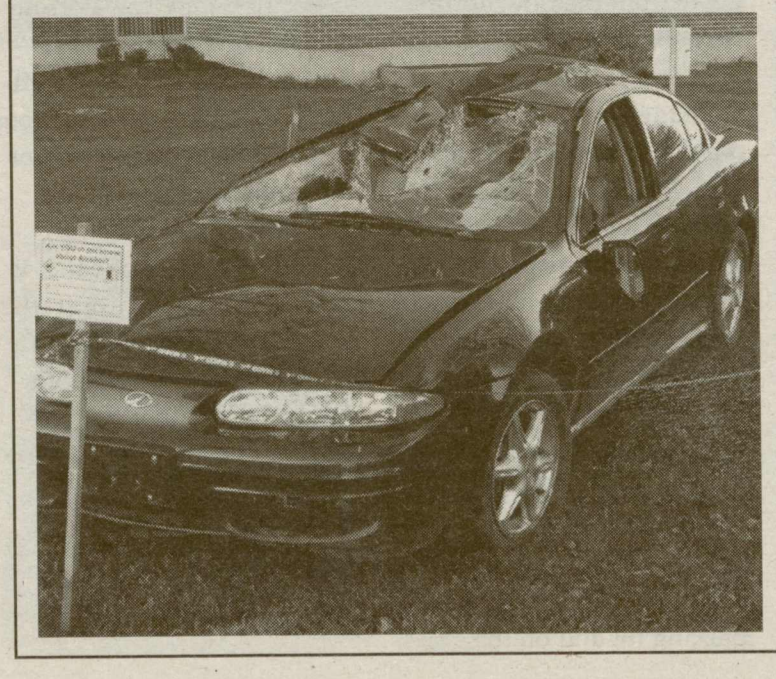
Photo By Heather Perkins

Stacy was happy with the reception her one woman preformance recieved at LSC. "The Yellow Dress" was a powerful experience that grabbed the audience's attention and interaction.









Photos By Thomas Borck

Residential Life decorated campus for alcohol awareness month, on Oct. 25. Alcohol fact signs appeared all over campus, as well as awareness tools, such as the smashed up car outside of Wheelock.

Profanity and jokes alleviate stress at the Local Area Network party meetings

By Catherine Story
Special to The Critic

It's Thursday night and LSC junior Katie White is stooped over a computer screen in LAC 411.

Her mouse flicks from side to side as she clicks at the keyboard with her left hand. She then jumps back a little and sighs, looking at the man next to her, while irritation flashes in her eyes. This is LAN Party-Club (LPC) and White is the only female out of 12 students in the room. LPC is a computer gaming club for students who play first-person shooters. Students play games like "Delta Force: Black Hawk Down" and "Wolfenstein" against one another on a LAN (Local Area Network) connection.

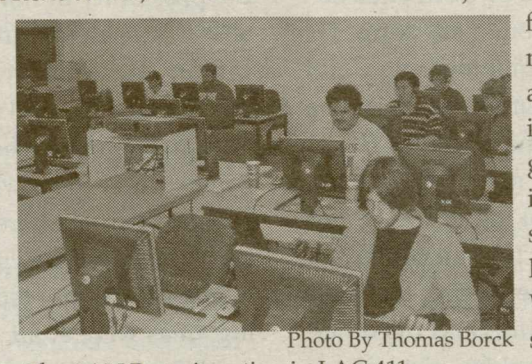


Photo By Thomas Borck

The LAN Party in action in LAC 411

"I like to play video games and it's a fun environment to play with other people," Nathan Carter, a sophomore who started playing in LPC last fall, said.

LPC is not for the easily offended. Although these students may be mild-mannered during classes, they are aggressive gamers. They use profanities to call out any "re-spawn campers" (players who stay where other players re-enter the game and kill them before they can fight back).

Players use aliases such as Kismet, NateDogg, SHADOW and AIDS. When the computer flashes, "AIDS gave Bob Dole a lethal ending," giggles erupt around the room.

LPC isn't just about funny names and playing video games. "It is a good stress reliever," White said, who started coming to LPC at the beginning of the semester. "He drags me here," she adds, gesturing to Brian Hook, a freshman who started playing in LPC in the spring.

Dennis Read, freshman, agrees with White. "I get agitated all week and take it out on a videogame," says Read, who has been attending LPC for a couple of weeks.

The club meets at 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Members are helpful, logging first-timers in to their school accounts so they can access the games.

They also keep an eye on newcomers to make sure they know what's going on in each game.

Freedom of the Press goes to forum at Café

By Thomas Borck
Critic Staff

Holy Sheet, a column Jordan Royer writes for The Critic, has been the attention of much controversy at Lyndon State College. Dr. David Johnston, head of the philosophy department at LSC, held a debate last night on how free the student press really is, and how LSC as a college should respond to Holy Sheet.

This informal discussion called Café de la Pensée was created by Dr. Johnston back in 2006 and has covered a wide variety of topics that impact the student's society or way of life.

The discussion started off with a few quick statements by Dr. Johnston, explaining that this is an informal forum to allow for open discussion without persecution.

Dr. Elizabeth Norris, assistant professor of fine and performing arts, said, "I am reading that someone is pushing pornography on our society and our community. Most of our students are 18 or older but what about the ones younger?" She questioned whether it was appropriate for the, "16 to 17 year-olds who go to college here." "Would we be held responsible? How would lawyers look at an issue like this?" Dan Williams, advisor to The Critic club, responded, "This is a college newspaper and is written for a college, not an elementary school. I am going to tell them to write for a college audience. What I appreciated about your (Beth Norris) note is the pro and con discussion it has created." Other teachers agree that this controversy has sparked many students into debate that wouldn't normally speak out. Denise Brown, assistant professor of English, said, "it has been a good opportunity for my classes to talk about oppositions: what is free speech?" Sue Henry, intramural and facilities director, responded, "I think they (The Critic) should be talking about social and ethical issues. I don't think pornography should not be talked about in the paper."

One of the concerns for the forum became the improper use of the LSC email network. Because students don't have access to sending campus wide emails they had no chance of sending a response that could be heard across campus. "We have multiple venues," said Dr. Johnston, referring to other ways of getting her message heard like writing a letter to the editor of The Critic. "Every LSC all email sends a total of over 4000 emails," said Jonathan Davis, head of Residential Life. Those emails go out to not just students and faculty but also alumni and others. Dr. Norris said, "It was a misuse of college email. I honestly didn't think of going to The Critic." President Carol Moore said, "We are going to have to put some restraints on the use of LSC all and StuAll."

The conversation returned to the issues of pornography in newspapers and the forum came to the conclusion that Holy Sheet wasn't pornography and legally wasn't under the legal description of obscene. Brown did bring up a question as to whether it was something The Critic wanted in its paper comparing it to the New York Times, which she said didn't print those kinds of articles. In response to that Dr. Johnston talked about famous magazines like Cosmopolitan which display the word sex on their cover all the time and referred to the it as a "Pornofication of society." Which sparked a rabid debate over what was regionally and nationally considered inappropriate to show on front pages or covers. Holy Sheet is usually printed in the middle of the paper and has never seen the front page.

Dr. Norris said that she was quite surprised to the large responses she saw on the Internet forums wondering why it seemed to receive more attention than the boards about foreign wars or genocides. "It is an issue that hits too close to home for students to ignore," said Dr. Johnston.

Green Mountain

By Norman Johnson
Special to the Critic

As a kid, Kim Crady-Smith knew she wanted two things: to be a teacher and own a bookstore.

She began teaching in 1995 after graduating from Lyndon State College, and five months ago she became the new owner of Green Mountain Books in Lyndonville.

Ellen and Jim Doyle, from Sutton, owned Green Mountain Books for years. Jim Doyle was professor of English at LSC for 15 years. "I was in the Diner [Miss Lyndonville] one day; Ellen and Jim were there." Crady-Smith said. "As I was leaving, Ellen asked me, 'Hey, do you want a job?' I said Yesssss."

Crady-Smith came to the Northeast Kingdom in 1991 from Burlington, graduated from LSC with a degree in English, worked at the Cornerstone School and helped start the Caledonia School in St. Johnsbury. For ten years she worked both jobs. Now that she owns the bookstore, her hours have changed a bit. "I gave up school vacations and summers, but now I have every weekend off for the first time in ten years." Crady-Smith said.

Green Mountain Books is a good mix of new and used books, fiction, non-fiction, classics, art books, and books by local artists. She also sells CDs of local music, jazz, rhythm and blues, and a lot of cards, especially during Christmas. Periodically she has author book signings. The next book signing is With Archer Mayor on Dec. 15.

"I'm getting a Web site going and I sell books online already. I can't sell text books, but I carry a lot of supplemental reading: literature, philosophy, education and outdoor books." Crady-Smith said. "I give faculty discounts and plan on offering specials for students through advertising at the college and The Critic." Crady-Smith said. In January, Green Mountain Books will begin renting books on CD.

It's difficult for the small bookstore owner to make a profit in a market of big stores with big buying power. "The biggest most important way of handling that is to have really good customer service." Crady-Smith said. "I try to help people find what they need, I'll even call the other bookstores—whatever it takes to get the person the book."

"I sell to a lot of schools. I tell them if they spend a small part of their book budget here it helps the community." Crady-Smith said. "Buying locally, the money goes back into the community."

And Crady-Smith loves books. "I learned to read when I was really young, 4-years-old." Crady-Smith said. "I used to get little books and I loved the way they felt and the way they smelled."

"I'm not a well-traveled person; grew up in Vermont, born in Vermont, never been any where else but Vermont." Crady-Smith said. "But through things I've read, I've learned to have a really broad world view, a good sense of culture, of differences and diversity. They make me feel connected to the world. I love the connections I've made with people about books. It's a shared experience."

Three Count: Recognizing The Sport of Professional Wrestling

By Timothy "Timmy" Kemp
Special to the Critic

This Issue's Topic – Candice Michelle and the Women's Division

Being a long time wrestling fan, there has been one aspect that has truly intrigued me … women's wrestling. Now although I do like the eye-candy valets, I'm really talking about the divas that are not afraid to get physical in the ring. It's just like watching our own Lyndon State Girls' Rugby Team. They are all very beautiful women, but what excites me is their willingness to lay it all out on the field, and take someone down. Now that's what I call passion. They're not doing it because they have to, but because it's what they love to do.

But getting back to wrestling, there is one woman that has been making quite a name for herself as of late, and that's Candice Michelle. Although she may have got her start from playing a small roll in the movie Dodgeball and the GoDaddy.com commercials during the Superbowl in the last couple years, she has definitely gotten that nitch to want to learn how to wrestle. She reminds me of a young Trish Stratus, who went from being a manager to a seven-time WWE Women's Champion. Trish will definitely be a future Hall of Famer in my opinion, and Candice has certainly followed in Trish's shoes, as she has already won a women's title.

A couple weeks ago on Monday Night Raw, Candice was in a two out of three falls match with champion, Beth Phoenix. It was a really physical bout, but in the end, Candice was on the top rope when she fell on her head. The match ended shortly after, and when she was being helped by the EMTs, she had this very glazy-eyed look on her face. I though she had suffered a concussion, but it ended up being a broken collarbone. It was heartbreaking not only to imagine the pain she must have been in, but see someone who was on such a roll and have it cut short. She will be back in action in six to eight weeks, and I believe she will be better than ever.

Over the years there have been many great female talents; spanning from the days of the Fabulous Moolah, Sensational Sherri, Trish Stratus and Lita, to modern day greats like Beth Phoenix, Candice Michelle, Mickie James, Melina and Jillian Hall. I understand that WWE's rival organization known as TNA (Total Nonstop Action Wrestling) have started their own women's division with personalities such as Gail Kim, Christy Hemme and Roxxi Laveaux. I think that the reason why the women's division really appeals to me, because you don't really hear a lot of women wanting to be wrestlers, or even just being wrestling fans. And when I see females wanting to step into the profession, it's just absolutely tremendous. If you get a chance to watch these beautiful divas compete in the ring, you'll see what I'm talking about.

Remember, I'm Timmy Kemp and that's my opinion!!

New LSC students take a walk through the Tunnel of Oppression

By Keith Whitcomb
Critic Editor

A tunnel was constructed to showcase the many forms oppression can take.

The tunnel was made of thin wood and wrapped around half of the Rita Bole gym. Every 20 minutes, a group of LSC students, mostly from the INT 2020 classes, would be lead through by a tour guide.

Their first stop was the face of economic oppression, in the guise of a homeless woman crying and begging for the silent observers to give her change or food. The actress playing the homeless woman, Jen Mogavero, senior, played her part well.

Next in the lineup was a scene of domestic abuse. The actors played a college-age woman studying with a male classmate, until the actor playing her boyfriend walked in. After calling her a s***, he pulls her around the corner by the arm. What followed were sounds of violence, followed by pleading.

Following that unpleasant scene, was one that took place in a classroom. One actor sat at a desk and portrayed a student with a learning disability. The other took the role of a teacher. In the skit, the student was still working on a test, long after the other students had finished. Unable to focus on the test, the student begged for more time and for the use of a computer to organize his thoughts.

Instead of getting him these things, the teacher mocked the student's inability to finish the test on time, like the other students did, and while the student eventually dissolved into tears, the teacher proceeded to tell him that some people simply weren't destined to succeed in college.

Around the corner from that miserable scene, was an actor playing a homosexual who was about to tell his friend that he was gay. He opted not to, after his friend made some remarks about never wanting to "hang out with a queer like that," after seeing another student dressed in a particular way.

Things got worse for the character when he attempted to tell his parents about his sexual preference. His parents had said they would always support him, but upon finding about him being a homosexual he was promptly thrown out of the house.

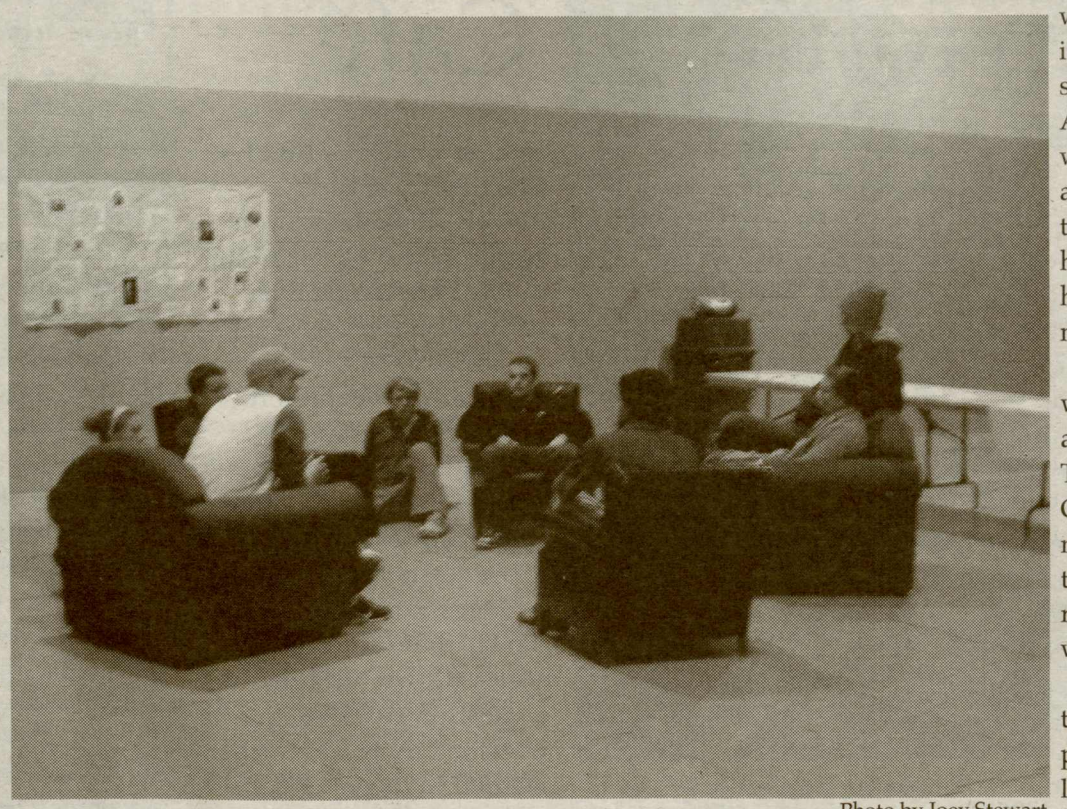


Photo by Joey Stewart

Students gather around after going through the tunnel

Moving on, the tour got a taste of sexism in the form of male and female students making disparaging remarks and jokes about the opposite sex. The males sat around telling jokes about why women don't need wrist watches, due to there being a clock on the stove, while the women used shoe size to speculate on the mass of a male's penis.

This segued into body image issues. This skit had a girl standing in front of two mirrors, one labeled "bad day" and the other "good day." On a good day, she felt alright about her body while looking in the mirror. On a bad day, she would see herself as fat and take a trip to a nearby bathroom to vomit, which the tour could easily see her do from the mirror.

The second to last stop was less interesting. It dealt with faith-based hatred, and was a projector showing excerpts from speeches made by Adolf Hitler. The words were in English and anti-Semitic, but those in the tour could hear Hitler's words as he spoke them in German.

The last exhibit was more of the same and dealt with racism. Those in the Tunnel of Oppression could read news articles and pictures, while taped racial slurs of all kinds were played.

While racism was the last show of oppression, it wasn't the last stop. Before all is said and done, those on the tour get to go a short counseling session to discuss their feelings.

"It gives students a chance to openly express themselves in a safe environment," Rachel Domings, a peer leader, said.

"When students come out of it, they're pretty quiet," Donna Keely, director of the First-Year Experience, said. Students need time to reflect and think about what they've seen, she added.

Students worrying over their own health and eating in the dining hall

By Gwen Cook
Special to the Critic

Gaining the "freshmen 15" is a common concern to most college students.

With unlimited access to the dining hall, staying up late, less time to exercise, as well as more chances to get a hold of alcohol, it does seem to be an inevitable thing that students will gain an extra pound or two.

University studies show that students on average gain only three to ten pounds during their first two years of college. Most of this weight gain occurs during the first semester of freshman year.

Eating at college tends to be more of a social thing, Abby Provost, a registered nurse at the Brown House, said. Students head to the dining halls as groups or pairs. They may not actually be hungry but go with their friends anyways. This leads to eating more than their body really wants or needs.

Students are limited when it comes to cooking appliances. A microwave and a coffeemaker are about the only things that are allowed in the dormitories.

Provost recommended this quick and healthy recipe. It lasts in the fridge for days and makes a tasty meal.

1 box of Couscous (found at most grocery stores)

1 bag of microwave steam-in-bag veggies, any type

Follow the directions on the back of the couscous box. Steam the veggies according to directions. Mix in medium to large bowl and enjoy.

Eating healthy along with proper sleep and exercise will allow students to stay in the best shape possible. Staying away from soda and alcohol could be a big help in staying in shape because they are loaded with extra sugars and carbohydrates that the body doesn't need.

Campus faculty and staff average salaries

By Ben Holbrook
Special to the Critic

Faculty salaries at Lyndon State College fall far short in comparison to most colleges in other states.

The average salary for a professor at LSC is $59,000, whereas in a state like Massachusetts the average salary would be about $72,000, according to Chronicle.com. These salaries only apply to full-time professors and not associate or assistant professors. Salaries for professors working at state colleges in Vermont are determined by their degree and the amount of experience they have, Andrea Luna, professor of English, said.

"There is a general misunderstanding about what college faculty do," Luna said. "Some people think that because we are only in the classroom 12 to 15 hours a week, we must not be working very hard."

There is a lot of outside work that goes into teaching, which includes prep time, grading time, conferences, and office hours, Luna said.

Besides all of the class work that must be done, professors are also required to do research and publish scholarly articles, and do services for the college and community, said Luna. "At Lyndon there are simply not enough full-time faculty," Luna said, "so in order to staff all the general education courses and to fill the committees that make the college run, we are all stretched very thin."

Salaries for colleges like LSC, Johnson State, and Castleton State, are the same because they are paid on the same Vermont State College Contract, Luna said.

The cost of living in Vermont is less than most states but that doesn't necessarily make up the difference, Luna said.

Here's what some of the people at LSC get paid per year. All figures are according to public records posted on the Burlington Free Press's Web site. The salaries are effective for the 2007 fiscal year and may have changed since being posted.

Administration:

LSC President Carol Moore: $121,662.00

Executive Assistant to the President, Darcie Miles: $30,982.00

Dean of Academic and Student Affairs, Donna Dalton: $101,671.00

Dean of Administration, Wayne Hamilton: $93,253.00

Professors:

Professor of English, Andrea Luna: $47,316.00

Professor of English, Daniel Williams: $40,228.00

Professor of Meteorology, William Fingerhut: $57,378.00

Physical Plant:

Former Director of LSC Physical Plant, James Gallagher: $70,634.00

Custodian/Housekeeper, Vicki Martin: $20,888.00

Lowest pay at LSC:

Secretary Receptionist, Jennifer Brown: $14,788.00

Highest pay at LSC:

LSC President Carol Moore: $121,662.00

Lowest pay in VSC system:

Administrative Assistant for Upward Bound (Castleton State College), Meghan Aher: $10,722.00

Highest Pay in VSC system:

VSC Chancellor, Robert Clarke: $161,881.00

For more salaries visit *http://miva.burlingtonfreepress.com/miva/cgi-bin/miva?DB_gateway.mv.*

Salaries can be looked up by last names, income ranges, and schools.

Fun Page

"I enjoy consumption of kittens. You know how people glorify warm, fuzzy feelings? Well, that's what I get from eating kitties." -A. Monster

Closely Related to Crossword Word Find (actually, overlord was lazy)

C	M	G	M	U	W	V	B	Q	N	A	E	E	I	S	V	X	D	B	P	S	E	T	X	E
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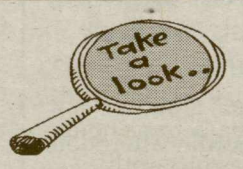
P	A	W	L	U	B	L	K	N	O	W	B	G	B	G	E	L	A	S	Y	B	C	C	D	S

This week, the words hidden in the word find are the answers to the crossword questions. There is also at least one occurrence of a three-letter word for swine meat.

This week's mystery!



Chauncey's Demise

Bill Durr, Nick Offtyme, Sonya Strailer, and Fran Sisko entered the clearing in the woods.

"Chauncey," Sonya called. "Are you up, Chauncey? It's nearly one!"

There was no answer. Bill looked around.

"When we last saw him, he was right here. I'm sure of it," he said.

"Where could he have gone?" asked Fran.

"OH MY GOD! What's that!?" Sonya exclaimed, pointing to a nearby object. When they got closer, they realized that it was an arm. Lying close by was another arm.

"CHAUNCEY! You said he'd be alright out here by himself!" Sonya yelled at Nick.

"He didn't object to it," Nick replied. "It's not my fault."

"Oh no…" Fran moaned, falling to her knees. "I found part of his face. I think I'm going to be sick."

While Fran lost her recently consumed lunch, Bill asked, "Do you think a wild animal got to 'im?"

Upon looking over the arms, the boys found no claw or bite marks. Each limb had been snapped clean.

"This is gruesome," Sonya whined, taking off her sweater and sitting down on it, away from the remains.

"The way I see it," Bill said. "It's obvious that one of us has done Chauncey in. No one else knew he was out here. Any one of us could've hidden behind these trees and snuck up behind poor Chauncey."

"Well, it couldn't have been Nick or me," Sonya said defiantly. "We live together, so one of us would've known if the other went out. The door squeaks so loud it would've woken me up if Nick left."

Bill shook his head.

"It definitely wasn't me. I was doing work all evening and would've been too tired to do anything afterward. Just ask Mrs. Durr."

Bill and Sonya looked at Fran, who was wobbling over a pool of vomit.

"Do you think *I'd* be capable of this?" She demanded.

"You've been awfully quiet," Bill said, turning to Nick.

"That's because you're all being foolish," Nick declared. "The real culprit is far away by now."

What happened to Chauncey?

(Sorry for the lack of Horoscopes this week. This is just something I'm trying. Please send feedback on having a mystery each week to Keith.Whitcomb@lyndonstate.edu. Make sure "Fun Page" is in the subject heading. Thanks.)

STUDENT METEOROLOGIST: Bryan Shaw

A cold front passed through early yesterday bringing us some rain showers and cooler November temperatures. Behind that front high pressure will move its way in and clear things up very nicely for the weekend. Expect cooler temperatures for the highs and lows into the twenties for the next few days.

STUMPED!?

For solutions to this week's puzzles as well as last week's, visit our site on the Web at lyndonstate.edu/critic. 24. Lost. Clint Eastwood. Ghost Busters. Additional problems can be obtained from your local internet source.

HARD AS JORDAN SUDOKU

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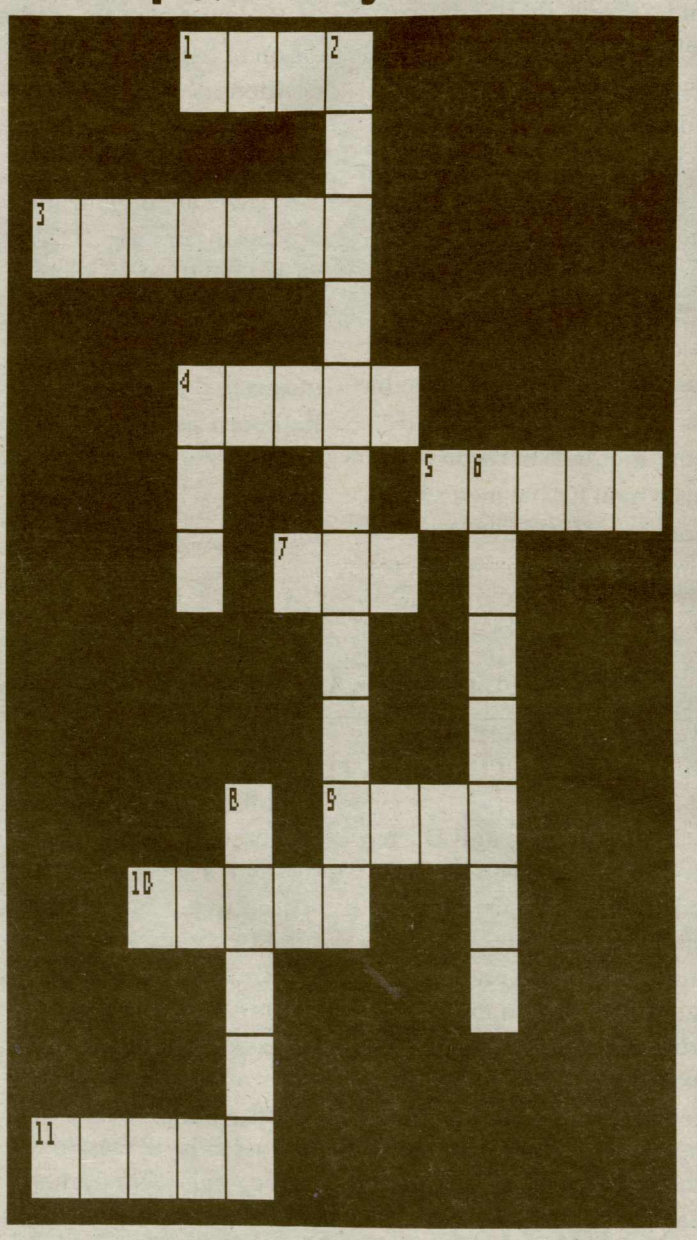
Computer Savy Crossword



ACROSS

1. Last name of rich Mac guy
3. Allows you to view what you are doing.
4. The Internet can be described as a "series of _____."
5. Computer processing power measurement.
7. Commonly used port on computer for MP3 players, cameras, etc.
9. What this crossword is.
10. Network cables used on campus.
11. Last name of rich Microsoft guy.

DOWN

2. What takes over your screen when you aren't doing anything.
4. Desk or Lap.
6. Secure connections do this to your data.
8. Insertable RAM hardware. Also Overlord snack. (Remember these answers!)

Puzzles Generated by Overlord of Fun, You're lucky. I had a blank "Make your own" Sudoku, but JJG made me change it. Hey, my mystery is kind of gory, huh? Maybe the Caledonian will run an article about that in a month.

Basketball teams looking for student assistant coaches

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

The Lyndon State College basketball teams are looking to add to their coaching staffs starting this season. To fill these positions they are looking to the student population for some help.

For the first time the teams are looking to add student assistant coaches to their bench personnel.

"We're looking for someone who is interested in coaching in the future," men's head coach Randy Rathburn said. "We could use the extra help with the day-to-day activities needed to run a Division III basketball program."

Rathburn said in an e-mail, which was sent out Oct. 25, that the chance to be an assistant basketball coach "…is a great learning opportunity and a great way to build your resume." So far, Rathburn has received half a dozen "serious" inquiries in response to his e-mail for the men's team. Some students have inquired simply to find out more information. Women's head coach Vinny Maloney said that he has heard from four students for the women's team position, two of whom are strongly interested.

"I've heard from one young lady who's interested, but doesn't have a strong basketball background. That's okay, because she can learn on the job," Maloney said. Both coaches said that they'll decide on who they'll hire as student assistant coaches the end of this week. Each coach said they might bring aboard one to two students each.

Rathburn said that the addition of the student assistant positions is directly related to the school's transition into NCAA Division III.

"There are organizational aspects to running a Division basketball III program that as part-time coaches, we just didn't have the time or the means to do everything," Rathburn said. Some responsibilities that the student assistant coaches will have include gathering scouting reports for upcoming opponents, helping out in practices, as well as running tape exchanges (swapping game tapes with other schools for scouting purposes).

"This gives students another chance at real-life learning experiences," Rathburn said of the new coaching positions.

Rathburn said that the student assistants wouldn't be paid at this point. The only exception that would be considered would be any work-study students who might be interested. The students would be treated like a typical assistant coach. "I would hope they can be at every away game, and every home game," Rathburn said.

The Hornets basketball season tips off this weekend with the annual alumni games on Saturday afternoon. The woman's game starts at 2:00 p.m., with the men's game following at 4:00 p.m. The Hornets home openers will be Nov. 28 against Hesser, starting at 5:30 p.m.

Declining turnout ends women's rugby season early

By Amanda Wozniak
Pagination Editor

A shortage of players caused the LSC women's rugby team to turn in the towel early this semester.

The semester began with 17 or 18 serious players, said women's captain Rachel Worman. There were three transfer students and four freshmen that joined the team this year.

The team was able to play in one game which took place on alumni weekend against Green Mountain College. The team played aggressively and it was a close game with Green Mountain College scoring one more try than LSC.

As the weeks went on and the semester was underway, the team began to lose players.

"Rugby is demanding on time," Worman said. "It's a large commitment."

The rugby women are expected to attend three two-hour practices during the week and Saturdays for games. With at least one-third of the team going to school full time and working outside of school, it was difficult for students to make weekend games.

"I think the semester off hurt the women's and men's teams," Worman said. Despite the efforts by the team to gain numbers through the LSC portal and e-mail, they were unable to come out with the numbers that they needed.

The scheduled games for the season were canceled when the team dropped to 11 committed players. Fifteen players are needed to play.

Although the games were canceled, women's rugby remains a club.

"Everyone on the team is focusing on their school work and getting into shape for next season," Worman said. "We're still a family," she added.

They are looking forward to next semester as it is less stressful than the fall. In the fall the team is competing within their division, and has a New England Rugby Football Union (NERFU) standing.

In the spring, the games and tournaments played are not dictated by any league. It is a good time for the team to rebuild itself and for new players to learn about the sport.

"We invite people to join that want to get involved in the LSC community. We are a very accepting group," Worman said.

What's the buzz? The latest news on the athletics of the Lyndon State College Hornets

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

Angel Phelps and Darren Roberge have been named Lyndon State's Athletes of the Week for the the week ending Oct. 28. Phelps, a senior co-captain on the women's soccer team, scored six points (two goals, two assists) in the final four games of her college career. Phelps was fourth on the team in scoring this season with three goals and three assists for a total of nine points.

Roberge also finished the season on a hot streak for the men's soccer team. He scored five points in the final two games of the season (two goals, one assist). For the year, Roberge finished the year with four goals and three assists for 11 points, tying for the team lead with Kyle Hessler (three goals, five points).

The Hornets volleyball team celebrated Senior Night on Oct. 24, honoring their four senior players: co-captain Tracy Anketell, along with hitters Ashlea Ireland, Joslyn Sykes and Kerrin Jerromin.

The Hornets soccer teams celebrated Senior Day on Oct. 28. The women honored backs/midfielders Amy Tetu, captains Brooke Everton and Angel Phelps, and Erin Shelton, while the men honored backs Mike Thatcher, Rodney Mercier and captain Justin Fleming.

Lyndsay Calkins: questions with a Lyndon State champion

By Lauren Potter
Special to The Critic

Name: Lyndsay Calkins
Sport: Cross Country

Wins this year: 4
Why Lyndon? It's close to home (Danville) and I've been here before for running camps and basketball camps.
What's your major? Double. Accounting and Exercise Science.
What are your plans after school? I could be a professional student. I love this. But probably real estate, with personal training on the side.
When did you start running competitively? Sixth grade.
Why Cross Country? My cousin was a runner, and my biggest role model growing up. I ran as an independent in Danville and started training on the Lyndon course as a junior.
What other sports have you been involved in? I played basketball through high school. I thought it was my favorite sport; I really like the team aspect. Then in my first year of college (at Nichols College in Mass.) I tore my ACL, so I focused on running.
How do you get ready for races? It's all mental. I go through the course and figure out where I'm going to relax a little and where I'm going to push it.
Do you do a lot of research on your competitors? Chris [Ummer] does a lot of that for me and informs me of it all week. But by Friday I just focus on the race instead of what everyone else is doing.
Next race? November 2. The national race in Buena Vista, Virginia. It's all small colleges in Division 3.
How much longer will you be racing at Lyndon? One more year. I'm looking forward to another year – there will be a lot more competition in the NCAA.
How does it feel to be one of the best? It feels good. It's not like it happened overnight, I had to work really hard for it.

Letter Policy:

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THE CRITIC

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One copy free, extras 50 cents each

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Nora Barney can eat glass, juggle and ride a unicycle. Read more on pg. 5

Seven club budgets rendered ice cold

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.
Critic Editor

Seven clubs have been punished for missing too many House meetings.

ALD, ASSIST, Chess Club, LCF, LSNPA, SPRI, and SPJ, have missed more than four meetings, which by the SGA's constitution means that they have lost voting rights as well as their ability to spend their budgets for the year provided they miss the next House meeting on this coming Wednesday.

In addition to losing voting rights as well as the ability to spend money, their status as clubs was also suspended by a vote of the SGA House of Representatives, meaning that they are in danger of losing their budgets altogether.

To regain their seat in House, they must appear before the SGA and explain why they have missed so many meetings as well as explain what they will do to not miss any more, Kate Murphy, SGA adviser, said.

Murphy has notified the affected clubs of their status and what they must do in order to avoid having their budgets re-absorbed into the general fund, via an e-mail.

If their budgets do get re-absorbed, the general fund will receive roughly $7058.65, according to the 2007-2008 budget packet.

"It's unusual to see so many clubs go under at once, at least in the three years I've been here," Murphy said. "We may lose one or two, but never this many."

"I know that for four of the clubs, it's due to lack of membership, so I would expect that's the case for all of them," Murphy said when asked for a possible explanation.

One club that's not worried is the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ), having spent most its budget on a trip to a conference in Washington during October.

SPJ's President and House representative, Kenneth Donnelly, said that his club only has three members. When asked why he doesn't attend House meetings Donnelly said "I really don't have time, and I can't find anybody else to go for me."

Donnelly added in an e-mail that "We're associated with the TV department and basically the whole school thinks we're a bunch of Prima Donna anyway.... so we might as well shove it back in their face, and not go to their joke of a student government."

Julie Theoret, associate professor of Math and Computer Science and adviser to Alpha Lambda Delta (ALD), an honors society for first-year students, said that ALD has trouble getting membership.

"Part of the problem is we don't get enough first-year students who choose to get inducted," Theoret said.

Out of the 22 qualified to join ALD last year, only eight accepted. Those eight students then had to elect officers from amongst themselves inside of a semester.

Kyrstal Hazlett and Sierra Bridges are ALD's two House representatives, although Theoret wasn't sure which one was the alternate and which one was the designated representative. Theoret e-mailed the entire club as soon as she read Murphy's e-mail warning the seven club's of their situation.

Even though the SGA is restructuring its constitution, it still operates under the general principals of the old one. "We're trying to operate under it as closely as possible while we revise it," Murphy said.

The section of the constitution that pertains to the House has not been affected by the SGA's recent restructuring of the Senate and executive board.

As such, the rules pertaining to attendance at House have been treated as valid by the House representatives as well as the newly elected Senators and executive board members.

Photo by Thomas Provitz

Michael St. Laurent and Spenser Perkins take the ice in the opening game of the Hornet's hockey season. Their opponents were the Coastguard Academy from New London Connecticut. Unfortunately they were defeated 10-3.

The next night, they played Springfield College, but were again defeated, 8-3.

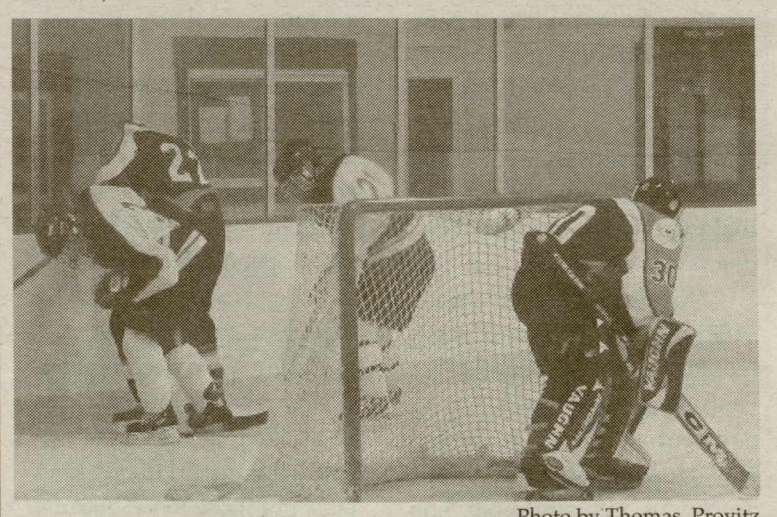


Photo by Thomas Provitz

Jordan Mosher and Geoff Holdredge batte the Coastguard Academy for the puck behind the Academy's net.

UVM's Residental Life draws criticism for concealing asbestos

By Christina Todd
Cynic Senior Staff Writer
University of Vermont

BURLINGTON-The doors to the UVMtv studio remain locked yet were found unlocked the day after the discovery of asbestos while many students question the lack of communication from the university.

"Many students have approached me about their justified concerns as to the lack of communication as it relates to the finding of the asbestos in Coolidge Hall," DaVaughn Vincent-Bryan, vice president of the SGA, said in an e-mail.

Removal of the floor tiles, containing asbestos, from the studio will begin on Nov. 19, when students leave for Thanksgiving break, Kevin McGarghan, UVM's Risk Analyst, said in an e-mail.

Vince Brennan, manager of the Physical Plant Training and Compliance Office, said that there is no risk of students breathing in any asbestos with the tiles in their current state.

"Although we should've been called before the carpet was lifted, there was no release of any sorts," he said.

"A student asking about the asbestos in the basement alarmed other students," Brennan said.

"There is no action going on right now and there is nothing to tell until the action starts," he said.

Exposure to asbestos can cause serious health problems, but there is no danger unless fibers are released and inhaled into the lungs, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Web site.

A notice will be posted on the doors of Coolidge and given to the resident advisors and ResLife when the removal process starts, Brennan said.

Following the concern over the lack of communication regarding the asbestos, Vincent-Bryan said that he and SGA president Kesha Ram met with President Dan Fogel and Gary Derr, chief of staff and executive assistant to the president and provost.

"Highlighted in this meeting was the importance of prompt notification sent to the SGA particularly on matters of student health and safety," Vincent-Bryan said.

Derr said he is not sure that all students should have been informed of the incident but that "there was a misstep in communicating to the SGA about the situation involving UVMtv."

"I am not sure that we need to keep all students informed of these types of issues," he said. "We opt to inform rather than not, but not overly inform to avoid the risk of people ignoring critical messages."

The majority of messages to students come from his e-mail and many students already complain of him cluttering their mailboxes, Derr said.

"It is difficult for me to expect that all students be notified, as there may have been concerns about alarming students or creating a situation that breeds misinformation," Vincent-Bryan said.

Some students may feel differently.

"If there is something that could cause harm, like asbestos, I would want to be aware of it," Mike Capuccio, a freshman resident of Millis, said.

Accounting program modifications occur in attempts to supply Vermont's demand

Gillian Moore
Special to the Critic

LSC's accounting program has grown this catalog year to recruit more students to this high paying profession, which has many opportunities.

There is a shortage of accountants nation wide. The current accountants are nearing retirement age, and there are few new accountants to take their places.

Linda Mitchell, a professor in the Business Administration department, explained there are more directions to take with an accounting degree that students are sometimes not aware of. "There are now three tracks to take - the certified public accountant track, the managerial accountant track, and our newest is a concentration in finance and accounting," Mitchell said.

Certified public accountants audit what companies report about their financial conditions, whereas managerial accountants work for companies to manage finances, prepare reports, and are very involved in the development of the company.

There is now a shortage in both these fields, even though they have the highest salary coming out of school, and one of the highest median salaries of all professions. In 2006 the average starting salary for accountants was $46,039 annually.

Lyndon has changed the requirements to receive a BS in Accounting. With the degree, students get good groundings in both accounting and business, which makes them good candidates for a master's program, usually known as the four-plus-one program. This year, two fewer accounting courses are needed, and two more business courses have been added.

"The finance track was added for students who are interested in finance and investments," Mitchell said. Finance courses are often cancelled, therefore this track was added to increase enrollment and interest in both accounting and finance courses.

Talena Shannon, an LSC senior in this concentration, worked for an investment firm in Burlington over the summer.

LSC accounting graduate Brenda Marie Wilkins is now the controller of Passumpsic Savings Bank, and Minty Conant, also an LSC accounting graduate, became the Chief Executive Officer of the Lydall Plant in St. Johnsbury, and went on to work for the national company.

Real world sets in when grace periods end

By Gillian Moore
Special to the Critic

Paying for college is like buying a house. They both accumulate interest and can take up 30 years to pay. The difference is, students hope the degree will eventually pay for itself.

Brandi Hussey left LSC in May and has recently started making payments on her student loans.

"My Sallie Mae payment is $187 a month, my Direct payment is $50 a month, and in February my Stafford loan payment will be $50 a month, too," Hussey said. "It's pretty much rent. Actually, more than rent."

There is usually a six-month grace period before the first payment, which allows time to find a job and get settled.

"I didn't expect the payments at all," Hussey said. "and the interest adds up so much. It's going to take me forever to pay these off."

Hussey said she has already accrued $1,000 worth of interest due to the Sallie Mae loans she had to take out every semester she was in school. Since Hussey's VSAC loans were not enough to cover all her college expenses soshe had to take out others.

"I would advise people to research interest rates and things like that before taking these loans out," Hussey said. "I just got those loans because they were easy and I didn't know what I was doing and neither did my parents."

Hussey said she would like to return to school, in which case her payments would be suspended.

Jen Betit, a recent graduate from the masters program at Argosy University, took out a total of $48,000 for loans. "I pay $375 a month, and it's going to be a 30-year loan." Betit said. "But in theory, anyone who goes to school will be making good money. That's why we go to school!"

Betit is confident that her master's degree in psychology will allow her to pay off her loans with ease. "I'm opening my own practice right now, and I'm planning on charging $75 an hour," Betit said. "I work a total of 70 hours a week with two autistic boys and at a convenient store until I can get on my feet. And I will soon enough."

Female smokers at higher risk than previously believed

By Emily Goins
Northern Star
(Northern Illinois U.)

(U-WIRE) DEKALB, Ill. - What the warning labels and after-school specials on smoking are not telling the female consumer may be surprising.

Nancy Bogle, public health educator for DeKalb County, Ill., says smoking increases the risk of all forms of cancer, including breast and cervical cancers for women.

"There is evidence that women smokers face a variety of ailments: a higher risk of heart disease when taking contraceptive pills, early menopause and cervical cancer," Bogle said.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), women are especially at a greater risk for reproductive problems such as fertility and menstrual problems.

Women who smoke before or during pregnancy can put their infant in danger of premature rupture of membrane, low birth weight and pre-term delivery. The risk for sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) and growth retardation of infants is also increased.

"Babies whose mothers smoked can have a higher risk of SIDS, middle-ear disease, respiratory illnesses, developing asthma in those previously unaffected and suffering asthma attacks in those already affected," Bogle said.

According to recent studies by the CDC, the damage done to a smoking woman's menstruation cycle can include painful or irregular menstruation and secondary amenorrhea, or the absence of menstruation.

Jackie Ryan, Northern Illinois University junior special education major, says she is now more aware of the dangers smoking has on her body.

"I have been smoking since I was 14, and I'll be 21 in January," Ryan said.

"Everyone, like me, knows the dangers of smoking and I've learned more troubles that will catch up to me in my future. I also will not be smoking when I am pregnant and don't plan to smoke around my children because smoking is my decision and I shouldn't punish others with my cancerous ways."

It has also been proved that women smokers are more likely to experience menopausal symptoms at a younger age than non-smokers.

According to the CDC, smoking while on hormonal birth control methods can also be harmful to a woman's health. Older women who smoke and use birth control dramatically increase the risk of having a first-time heart attack, blood clots, strokes, gallbladder disease, liver tumors and vision problems.

Broadcast yourself on YouTube and win money from LSC

By Catherine Story
Special to the Critic

If you could use an extra $100 to $400 and enjoy YouTube videos, Takuya Shimamura, also known as Tak, and the admissions office have a contest for you.

The YouTube Video Competition will challenge students to come up with interesting videos explaining why they like LSC.

Shimamura came up with the idea. "Students need some excitement," he said. Shimamura also said that the videos would be used for marketing to prospective LSC students. The admissions office and Shimamura will judge the videos.

Students will have the opportunity to make a five-minute YouTube video. Videos will be uploaded to YouTube and then the link will be e-mailed to webmaster@Lyndonstate.edu.

The first place winner will receive $400. The second place prize is $200, and the remaining $100 will be given to a randomly selected entry. Everyone has the opportunity to win some money.

This is the first time LSC has done the YouTube contest and Shimamura is hoping for at least 50 entries. He said he would be happy to receive 200 to 300 entries. He is planning to watch all of them.

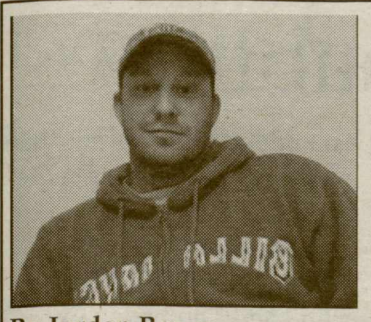
LSC students have been making YouTube videos for years. If a search is done on the YouTube Web site for "Lyndon State College" the findings include, "Daggers 06 Rail Jam at Burke," "Scary Mary goes in for the Kill," as well as dozens more.

"I would like to see television and visual studies students get involved," Shimamura said. He emphasized that the contest is not limited to them and all students are welcome to participate.

For students who need a camera Shimamura said there is one free to borrow.

The deadline for the contest is Dec. 14. Winners will be chosen on Jan. 10. Winners must be full-time students. For more information on the contest visit http://www.lyndonstate.edu/youtube.

Holy Sheet



By Jordan Royer

Call me beautiful

Why is it that almost everything I read on relationships has found one way or another to include what makes guys fall in love, or some method for women to attract guys and then make them stay?

In reading a recent article in Cosmo, yes, I read Cosmo once in a while- go ahead, laugh. Anyway, the article was titled, 'What makes men fall in love'. It caught my eye so I read through it and found ways women should treat a man to make him fall in love. Sure, I agreed with some of the methods but in the middle of reading it I became more fascinated with another idea, 'What makes women fall in love'.

Ok, so I have been told before that I will never know what a woman thinks, so I guess I will never find out what makes women fall in love, but I sure as heck want to find out. Looking at Men's Health I see a bunch of things concerning the topic of women but guess what, they are almost all strictly sex based. Sure those articles are good but what I am looking for right now is not just articles on sex but something with some substance, come on Men's Health, teach me how to make her fall in love.

Since a quick google search still left me in the dark, I decided I needed to go to the source and seek women's opinions. Guys, they aren't as difficult as you may think, in fact, I was excited to find similar answers from the over 20 women that I talked to.

The little things count- Time after time I heard that the little things count. Be thoughtful, humorous, cook for your partner and be generous. "It's amazing when a guy doesn't play games," an anonymous female said, "like they call when they say they'll call."

Listen- Women, unlike most men, seem to like to talk their problems out. Be there, listen. After "listening" to all these women I came to realize there is a difference in listening and actually listening. Do the latter.

Be comforting- A lot of women seem to have accepted the role of the sensitive one so you need to take the role of the comforter. This doesn't mean, go and show your manliness by starting fights, instead, wrap your arms around her and make her feel that you care and that you are there for her.

Bite your tongue- Sure fellas, when were hanging out and talking we toss around words like sexy and hot, but when it comes to making a girl understand how you view her, its BEAUTIFUL.

If you are going to drop the L-bomb (love) you better be able to tell her she is beautiful and not use slang like sexy or hot. Some girls admitted to me that sexy and hot are nice compliments but if they are looking for a relationship, they don't want to hear it. "When a guy calls you beautiful it feels like it's actually coming from the heart," Devin Daniell, LSC senior said. "When a guy says you look sexy it's nice to hear but it more or less feels like he's just trying to get some." In that case guys, if you are looking for a "casual" relationship then you might get away with using those words, but when you are ready for something serious and want to tell her how you really feel, use beautiful.

Position of the Week- G-Spot Jiggy

Letter Policy:

The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must be signed and include the author's phone number and address. The Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:

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Environmental Corner

Vermont's recycling and re-use industry is a significant player in the regions economy

By Kurt Heinchon
Special to The Critic

Most people in the Northeast understand that recycling saves resources, conserves energy and reduces the need for landfills and incinerators. But few Vermonters know that their efforts help fuel a $44 billion industry in the Northeast with 13,000 recycling and re-use business establishments employing over 206,000 people and paying wages in excess of $6.8 billion.

A recent study by the Northeast Recycling Council (NERC) documents the business of recycling and re-use. This is a largely hidden side of this most visible environmental endeavor that has quietly captured the attention of entrepreneurs, financiers and economic developers throughout the nation.

In Vermont, there are 247 businesses and municipal programs employing almost 2,000 people. These recycling and re-use industries are incredibly diverse. They include long-established sectors like paper and steel making, but have also spawned new entrepreneurial ventures in wood re-use, computer re-manufacturing and composting.

Vermont's recycling and re-use industries include Second Harvest in Jeffersonville which "deconstructs" old barns and houses, Retro Works in Middlebury that refurbishes old computers, and Foster Brothers Farms which composts a wide range of organic materials for its Moo Doo compost mixes.

"The economic activity we are seeing by recycling and re-use companies in Vermont is growing steadily," said Christopher D'Elia, Commissioner of the Vermont Department of Economic Development. "This study confirms that we're likely to see continued growth of new entrepreneurial ventures that help create quality jobs for Vermonters while helping to conserve natural resources."

In the new study, recycling is divided into 19 different categories. Five of them involve the business of supplying recycled raw materials to manufacturers. This includes municipal and commercial collection programs, sorting facilities and commercial scrap processing facilities.

In 1998, 5,759 of these businesses employed nearly 40,000 people. This is 28 percent more employment than supplied by Northeastern mining operations, which supply primary or "virgin" raw materials.

The other 14 recycling business categories involve manufacturing new products with recycled materials. Using very conservative methods to estimate the amount of manufacturing employment directly attributable to recycling, it is estimated that 1,870 recycled product manufacturers employ 136,094 people. This is approximately 4% of overall manufacturing employment in the region.

The re-use industry is comprised of seven categories. In total, re-use represents 5,005 employers, 27,514 jobs, and gross revenues of almost $3 billion.

For more information on recycling and reuse opportunities, contact the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District at:
626-3532
(800) 734-4602

By e-mail at:
progmgr@nekwmd.org

Check out their website at: www.nekwmd.org.

UVM ranks six in 2008 college sustainability

By Megan BraNcaccio
Cynic Staff Writer
University of Vermont

BURLINGTON- Students, faculty and staff of UVM can now officially refer to the University as a sustainable, green establishment.

The Sustainable Endowments Institute voted the University of Vermont as one of the top six sustainable college leaders out of 200 in the U.S. and Canada in their 2008 College Sustainability Report Card.

According to their Web site, the Institute is, "... a non¬profit organization engaged in research and education to advance sustainability in campus operations and endowment practices."

Based on the evaluation of eight categories (Adminis¬tration, Climate Change and Energy, Food and Recycling, Green Buildings, Transportation, Endowment Transparency, Investment Priorities and Shareholder Engagement) the Institute administers an overall grade to each school that submits data.

Besides the University of Vermont, top sustainability leaders included Carleton College, Dartmouth College, Harvard University, Middlebury College and the University of Washington.

UVM earned such high scores (A- overall) because it has such efficient transportation methods, according to http://www.InsideHigherEd.com. The data submitted by the school stated that UVM has used biodiesel on all buses since 2002, and six out of ten buses have been modified to run on all natural gas.

In addition, the Sustainable Endowments Institute gave UVM an A in the Green Buildings category, since all new renovations and construction must be LEED-certified.

It also gave UVM an 'A' in Food and Recycling because it purchases 30 percent of it's food from Vermont and 35 percent of waste is diverted from the landfill, according to the Institute's Report Card statistics.

UVM Environmental Coordinator Gioia Thompson was recognized for her full-time dedication to the University's sustainability projects, as well.

Thompson clarified that the University did not appear on the Institute's list last year because they only looked at the top 100 greatest endowments, rather than a spectrum of various categories.

According to http://www.InsideHigherEd.com, Thompson explained that despite the award, the school still has a long way to go to reach its goals for a greener institution.

UVM President Daniel Mark Fogel agreed. "It is gratifying when the lived-out values of our community are recognized in this way," he said, "but we want to be clear that we have a great deal more to do to achieve carbon neutrality and to make all of our institutional practices and operations the kind of model we would like them to be."

College cooking

By Gwen Cook
Special to the Critic

College for most students means a break from home and a chance to be independent. It also means no more delicious home-cooked meals.

In college the main cooking tool is usually the microwave. This is mainly because it is the only tool that is allowed. Lots of things can be cooked using the microwave if you've got an imaginative mind and some ingenuity. For the less inventive people there are always ramen noodles...again.

For those students who are bored with the same old thing every night, try these simple and quick recipes.

Mini-pizzas: Slice an English muffin in two and spread some spaghetti sauce on each half. Sprinkle with some shredded cheese (any kind that you choose) and warm it in the microwave until the cheese looks melted.

Oatmeal with berry swirl: Take a plain oatmeal packet and make according to the directions. Spoon some berry jam/jelly (any kind) on top and swirl together.

Macaroni Salad: Put pasta and water in a medium/large bowl and boil in microwave until pasta is tender (be sure to check while this is cooking because the water tends to boil over). Drain the pasta and rinse with cold water (this allows the macaroni to cool). Cut up cucumber, pepper, and onion and mix into pasta. Add a spoonful or two of mayo to the mixture and mix together. (This will last in the fridge for days when it's covered!)

Shepherd's pie: Place fresh hamburger in a medium to large bowl and brown in the microwave (until there is no more pink, you might want to mix it every so often to be sure it's completely done). Drain hamburger and set aside. Cut up a potato or two and place in another medium to large bowl. Fill ¾ full of water or until potatoes are completely covered. Microwave until tender and drain. Use a can opener and open a can of corn. Layer as follows: hamburger, corn, and then potato and enjoy.

If there is a dorm-room recipe that you think I should mention in a later article...write to me! My e-mail address is gwendolyn.cook@lsc.vsc.ed. Happy Eating!

Ron Powers, author of "Mark Twain: A Life," visits St. Johnsbury

By Heather Perkins
Critic Staff

ST. JOHNSBURY – Members of the LSC community attended the lecture on the biography, "Mark Twain: A Life", written by Pulitzer Prize winning journalist, Ron Powers.

The lecture was given at the Saint Johnsbury Athenaeum last Wednesday night.

Powers pulled the audience in with the inflection of his voice, passionate about his words. His biography was three years in the making and 720 pages long, after his editor cut out 6,000 words. It could have been two volumes of equal pages, but Powers said he decided against it for "practical reasons" and that "no one would buy two, 720 page long volumes."

He sorted through 12,000 of Mark Twain's letters, as well as 22,000 journals and notebooks for his biography. "I decided to put theory aside and even my own voice and get him on stage as dialogue and the journal entries," Powers said.

Throughout his lecture Powers pulled in the present and wrapped it around the past to keep everyone on the same page. The language he used kept the audience entertained and engaged.

"Ron Powers created a brilliant word-portrait that made Mark Twain come alive for me," Alan Boye, LSC Professor of English, said.

"I thought he was great. He was humorous and passionate about his words, very engaging all the time. I really enjoyed him," Trish Pennypacker, an LSC senior, said.

Powers expressed Twain's views through his letters and journals by reading off passages to the audience and changing his whole voice to become the character of Mark Twain. Powers did this while maintaining eye contact with the audience the whole time.

Powers called Twain "the authentic American voice." He said he believes that Mark Twain is relevant to students now "because we're following his tradition today." Powers also said that Mark Twain "reminds us constantly of what it is to be human."

It was almost impossible for Powers to avoid Mark Twain; his town was saturated with landmarks of the man. But Powers said that he had been afraid to write a biography on Twain for years, thinking that he was "too big" and that there wasn't anything left for him to cover that someone hadn't done already. Though he avoided it his agent eventually convinced him.

Powers ended his lecture with a laugh and said, "I don't actually think that I'm his reincarnation." He then addressed students in the audience, "and to Lyndon State students, no, I did not know him personally."

Temperatures on the rise

By Ariel Siegel
Washington Square News
Staff Writier
New York University

NEW YORK - Temperatures have been on the rise this year, marking a record warm October with the month's mean temperature seven degrees above average, according to data from AccuWeather.

Normal temperatures for mid to late October are between the 40s and 60s, much lower than the 60s and 70s of this October, The New York Times reported.

"I expected it to be a lot colder," said Emily Reynolds, a New York University Silver School of Social Work freshman from Alabama. Reynolds said the current New York weather is about the same as in the South.

Environmental Studies professor Dale Jamieson said it's hard to draw conclusions about global warming from one incident, like a particular month being warmer than usual.

"It's as if we had a die, and we rolled and three times the number four came up, and you asked me if that proved the die was loaded," Jamieson said. "I wouldn't really be able to tell based on that -- we would have to look at a much larger pattern, so it's exactly that type of problem."

Meteorologists are attributing this change in weather to the unusually northern position of the jet stream, the river of high-speed air that circles the globe and separates warm and cold air masses, The New York Times reported. Other contributing factors include a warming cycle that has been going on for decades in the Atlantic and La Nina -- a large spot of cool air in the Pacific Ocean.

This October is estimated to have been the second hottest October in 115 years, while last October was the 29th coldest month in history, CNN reported, adding that the high temperatures have caused retail sales in fall apparel to be much lower than usual, causing decreased stock values for retailers.

However, Jamieson said he didn't think people were being alarmist about the warmer than average month.

There are a lot of incidents that we can't prove scientifically. The causes are the consequences of a larger trend," Jamieson said. "Because we can't prove that something wasn't the consequence, that doesn't mean that it wasn't."

Lyndon State student has spent life clowning around

By Norman Johnson
Special to The Critic

Nora Barney, a freshman environmental science major at Lyndon State College, works part time in the college mailroom. But when she goes home to Bridgeport, Conn., she's more likely to be in costume and grease paint, riding a unicycle, juggling, swallowing swords, eating fire, or walking on glass.

"I started at age five doing magic tricks," Barney said. "I like to ride the unicycle and juggle."

Barney grew up one of six children in a circus family that toured with Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus. Her father is a professional circus clown whose stage name is "Bamboozle."

"In school he was always the class clown," Barney said. "He was good at joking around. At home there's never a dull moment."

Barney's father was with Ringling Bros. for 17 years before settling down in Connecticut. Once there he organized his own performing company, doing back yard circuses and shows for public events and private parties.

Barney said in a circus family everyone works. She looked after animals, circus property or simply cleaned. Only her mother was exempt. "Mom was just a mom," Barney said. "She kept everyone sane, without her we'd all be crazy."

When Barney puts on her costume and face paint she becomes "Sprinkles."

"She's kind of a nerdy hobo in a patchwork dress," Barney said. "When you put on that costume and that makeup, you're that person. Every clown has a trademark face. Clowns take trademark faces very seriously."

Photo by Norman Johnson
Nora "Sprinkles" Barney on an LSC field trip earlier this year.

Bamboozle takes his job as circus father seriously also. One Christmas when she was 10, she asked for a bicycle. "I woke up Christmas morning, and there was a unicycle," Barney said. "I had to master that before he'd get me a real bike. I practiced in the hallways. It was the hardest thing I've ever done."

Barney went to a special school for eight weeks in Coney Island. It was started by people concerned with continuing the art of the side show. She learned the business of swallowing a sword, eating fire, walking on glass, and juggling. "I juggle clubs and up to five balls," Barney said. "I'm trying to do six." Her favorite acts are eating fire and swallowing swords. "I love the crowd reactions," she said.

Barney talked about going to the clown convention held in Seaside Heights, NJ. "They come from all over. It's like a high school reunion."

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey tours three circus groups throughout North America and Europe. "My favorite was Madrid," Barney said. The Blue unit and the Red unit tour concurrently, each with a different show in different locations. They tour 11 months a year for two years then retire to winter quarters in Florida to reorganize the shows. That way no location sees the same show twice. The Gold unit performs without animals.

On tour, Barney usually traveled for four month periods, "We were constantly on the road. Down the line, we'd get a couple weeks off," Barney said, "but that could change. "Dad was on the road all the time."

The kids got their formal education on the road from an instructor touring with the company, a combination of private tutoring and home schooling.

This Thanksgiving break and Christmas, Barney will be working; clowning at parties and events like Yale Hospital for Christmas events in her alter-ego, making people laugh and if only for a moment, forget the more serious problems of life.

GETTING BOMBED: Alcohol and energy drinks equal a dangerous mix

By Glenys Bolls
Daily Toreador
(Texas Tech)

(U-WIRE) LUBBOCK, Texas - Mixing alcohol with energy drinks can have serious consequences.

College students who drink alcohol mixed with energy drinks are far more likely to participate in risky behaviors than those who drink just alcohol, according to new research from the Wake Forest University School of Medicine in Winston-Salem, N.C.

"We asked college students why they mixed," said Dr. Mary Claire O'Brien, associate professor of emergency medicine and public health sciences at Wake Forest and lead researcher on the study. "They said it was because they could drink longer, drink more and not feel drunk."

Students who consumed the mixed drinks were twice as likely to be injured as students who drank straight alcohol, according to a press release from the university. These students also were twice as likely to require medical attention and twice as likely to ride with an intoxicated driver as students who did not mix the beverages.

"I like the analogy of getting in a car and stepping on the gas and the brake at the same time," O'Brien said. "Your judgment is impaired when you're intoxicated, but because you don't know that you're intoxicated, your judgment is even more impaired."

O'Brien used an example from a 2006 Brazilian study to show that caffeine mixed with alcohol distorts a person's perception of how intoxicated he or she is.

"They took 26 healthy male volunteers and completed tests of motor coordination, reaction time and subjective drunkenness -- how drunk they felt," she said. "Their motor coordination and reaction times were unchanged by the addition of an energy drink. What did change was the subjectiveness of their drunkenness."

Students who mix alcohol and energy drinks are more than twice as likely to take advantage of someone sexually and almost twice as likely to be taken advantage of sexually, according to the press release.

"People need to understand that their blood alcohol concentration is not changed by consumption of an energy drink," O'Brien said. "The symptoms are not changed, just the feeling. You're just as drunk, you just don't feel drunk."

In addition to increasing risky behaviors, the amount of alcohol consumed increases when the drinker mixes it with energy drinks, according to the press release. During a typical drinking session, students who mixed the beverages consumed an aver--age of 5.8 drinks; students who did not mix consumed an average of 4.5 drinks.

The greatest number of drinks consumed in a single episode was 36 percent higher for students who mixed the beverages. Students who mixed the drinks reported twice as many episodes of weekly drunkenness as those who did not.

"If someone consumes this concoction who has never had alcohol, it will have a very different effect than on someone who has a tolerance for alcohol," said Debra Reed, a professor in Nutritional Sciences at Texas Tech.

Researchers used an Internet-based survey of 4,271 college students from 10 North Carolina universities to gather this data. The students were asked approximately 300 questions relating to alcohol use and its consequences, as well as other health risk behaviors.

"Energy drinks, in terms of caffeine, could potentially be harmful," Reed said.

This is because caffeine increases the volume of alcohol a person consumes, O'Brien said.

"You can drink more when you're mixing it with energy drinks because you don't feel as drunk as you are," she said. "If you take someone who's intoxicated and give them an energy drink, all you have is someone who's awake and drunk."

Twenty-four percent of the respondents who had consumed alcohol in the 30 days prior to the survey had mixed it with energy drinks, according to the press release.

"That's basically one in four that have an increase in risky drinking," O'Brien said. "If you account for the amount of alcohol consumed, people are twice as likely to be injured."

According to the data, students who were older than their peers, white, male, intramural athletes or Greek society members or pledges were more likely to combine alcohol and energy drinks.

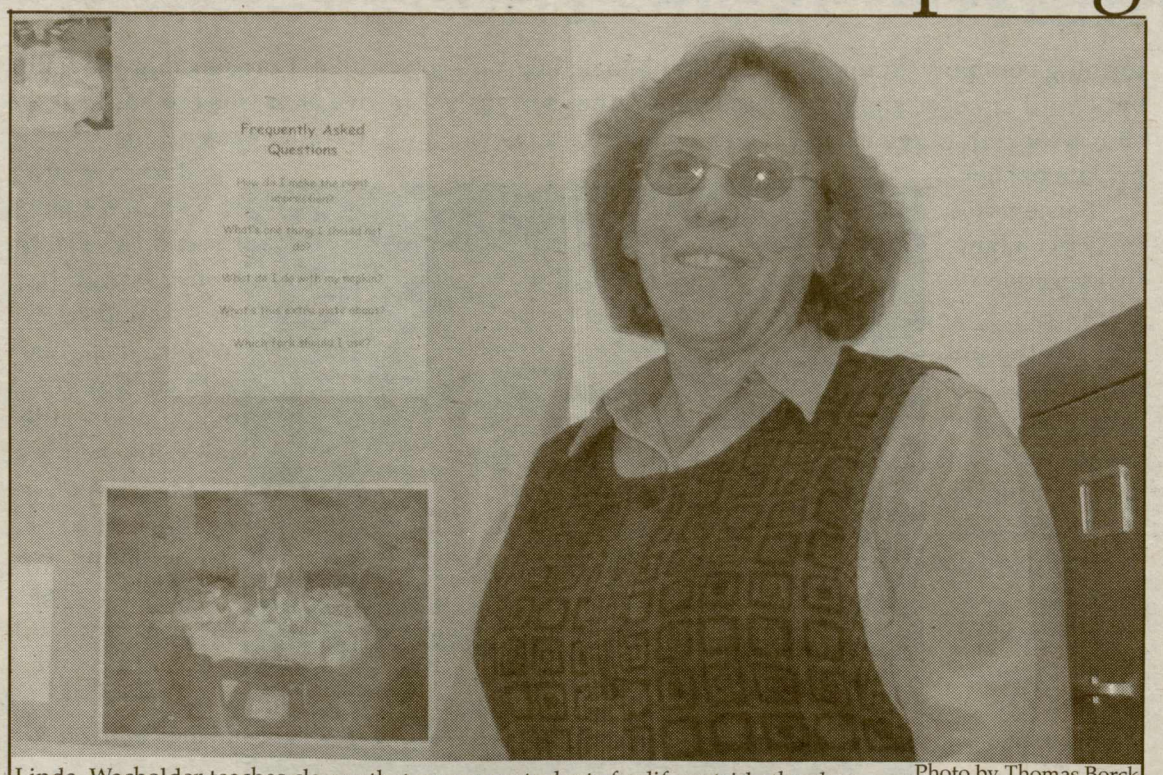
"That's the way energy drinks are marketed," O'Brien said. "They're associated with sports and macho-ness."

Although energy drink companies normally emphasize other ingredients in the beverages, such as taurine, the main component is caffeine, according to the press release.

"There's an urban legend that taurine is made from bull semen, and it will give you greater sexual prowess," O'Brien said. "It's not; it's made in a lab, and people feel what they want to feel."

Linda Wacholder's mini-INT spring courses

By Tabitha Fitzgerald
Critic Staff



Linda Wacholder teaches classes that prepares students for life outside the class Photo by Thomas Borck

This spring semester, Linda Wacholder, director of Career Services, is offering two mini-courses.

These two courses will provide students with valuable skills that will help them after they leave the LSC community.

The better known of these two mini-courses is "Life Beyond the Classroom" or INT 4720.

Wacholder said she has been offering this class for about four years. So far the class has been well attended, averaging 10-15 students per class. It is a class specifically geared towards seniors.

The point of this class is help students prepare for what comes after college, Wacholder said. She requires students to complete résumés and cover letters that can be used to obtain jobs after graduation. Students also learn about budgeting and personal finance. "I try to structure activities in class that will be meaningful to transitioning to the world outside of Lyndon State," Wacholder said.

One of the events that Wacholder requires her 4720 students to attend is "Dinner with the Boss". This is an event that Wacholder has been putting on for the past seven years.

Wacholder said that the point of this event is to help students with dinner etiquette. Students must dress appropriately for a business dinner. They then learn about etiquette, such as which silverware to use at a formally set table.

Alumni are also invited to "Dinner with the Boss." They share their experiences with the seniors and give advice about the world beyond LSC.

The second half mini-course that Wacholder is offering is called "Jump Start Your Future" or INT 2710. This class is geared toward sophomores and juniors. The point of this course is to help students plan the rest of their time at school. Some of the things students are required to do in this course includes; résumés, cover letters, job shadowing, presenting self for jobs, learn email etiquette, a class presentation, and internship preparation.

The one major event that the students are required to attend is what Wacholder calls, Speed Networking. At this event about 15 local human resource managers set up in the Burke Mountain Room on the LSC campus.

Students have about five minutes to talk to a manager before a bell is rung and the student must switch stations. This forces students to introduce themselves, get answers to key questions about the job and answer the questions asked of them in a quick and thorough fashion, said Wacholder.

"Both classes are designed to help students do the things they say they should be doing themselves but don't, such as résumé writing," Wacholder said. She said that these classes help students focus on their futures and decide on what they want to do after college.

Wacholder said that the times for these classes are to be announced. She waits for students to sign up, then she tries to work around their schedules and find a time that is convenient for everyone. As of now "Life Beyond the Classroom" is scheduled for Tuesdays from 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Jump start your future is a second half mini-course and is still to be announced. Both classes are worth one credit.

Lyndon State College spam alert worries some students

By Eric Downing
Critic Staff

Recently there have been a few unofficial reports from students that they've been receiving spam in their LyndonState.edu inboxes.

Instead of getting just normal LSC stualls, and other campus-wide emails, they're finding spam from sources outside the school, such as pyramid scams. What is going on?

Assistant Chief Technology Officer Michael Dente assures there is no cause for alarm. "We have a couple layers of spam filtering," he says. The Vermont State College (VSC) system uses a spam-filterer called Barracuda. This is in addition to the system of virus protection that Lyndon State provides.

On outlook, students also have a junk email folder, which is typically where spam emails end up. With the amount of emails sent a week averaging 1.5 million, one can see how it is hard to catch every bad email. Dente gets up at 5:30 every morning, so he's often to first one to find them, so he can filter them out before most students see them. About 4,000 emails are banned a week. "There's never going to be 100 percent filtering," Dente says. This is not to say that he is doing a bad job. Dente has cut the number of spam emails down from 50 an hour to four to five and hour, which is significant.

Since students may encounter occasional spam, it is important to know what to do.

First of all, spam is easy to recognize. The sender is usually a company or person you've never heard of. The subjects of such emails typically involve earning/winning money or an astounding offer, but are not limited to these things. Sometimes they have attachments.

A student is advised to NOT open the email or any of its attachments. Then, she or he should write down details about the email, such as the sender and the subject and report these to Dente. He can then add a special filter for the email. Finally, a student should delete the email to prevent accidental opening.

Be aware of what's in your inbox before you open anything. "You just have to be careful," Dente says.

Stephen Colbert withdraws from the presidential campaign

By Rachel Smith
Washington Square News
New York University

(U-WIRE) NEW YORK - The people of the United States will have to endure four more years without the enlightenment of "truthiness."

Stephen Colbert, the host of the "The Colbert Report" on Comedy Central, officially declared his short-lived presidential bid null and void on Monday after the South Carolina Democratic Party's executive council voted 13-3 to keep him off the ballot last Thursday. His campaign, which started Oct. 16, lasted less than a month.

"I want to say to my supporters, this is not over," Colbert said on the Monday show, as reported by the Associated Press. "While I may accept the decision of the Council, the fight goes on! The dream endures! ... And I am going off the air until I can talk about this without weeping."

Weeping or not, Colbert will not be going on air to talk about his withdrawal any time soon because writers from his show went on strike Monday.

Colbert's plan had been to run only in his home state, South Carolina, on both the Democratic and Republican ballots. After finding out that the Republicans' filing fee for being put on the ballot was $35,000, as opposed to the Democrats' fee of $2,500, Colbert decided to skip the GOP and just run as a Democrat.

Many believe that Colbert's brief campaign was a stunt. Christine Harrington, a professor of politics at New York University and an avid Stephen Colbert fan, said, "I viewed the running for office as an extension of his satirical 'bit' about the American elective process."

Even so, there were those who took the comedian's joke quite seriously. It recently surfaced that two prominent campaign supporters of Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.) made calls to members of the S.C. Democratic Party's executive council to ensure that Colbert was kept out of the race, according to CNN.

Neal Schechter, the treasurer for the College Democrats, said in an e-mail that both Obama and Colbert appeal to the younger crowd, so any votes for Colbert would have been detrimental to Obama's campaign.

"After all, if Colbert had stayed on the ballot, and gotten 6 percent of the vote, and Clinton had gone on to beat Obama 38 percent to 35 percent, don't you think that the Obama people would have been kicking themselves the next day?" Schechter said.

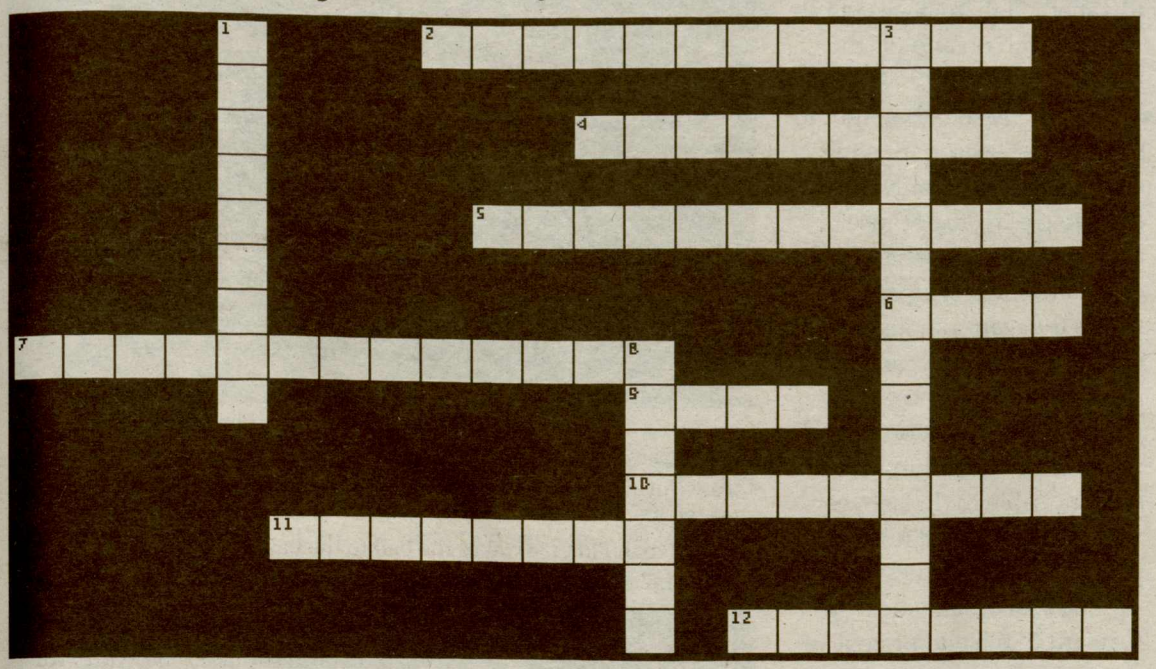
Though the Colbert "threat" is officially gone, Colbert garnered surprising support during his short-lived campaign, especially among young voters. On Facebook, a group called "1,000,000 Strong for Stephen T. Colbert" snapped up 1 million members only five days after its creation.

However, NYU students didn't seem to be concerned about Colbert's withdrawal; some didn't even know he had been running, didn't know who he was, or if they did, saw his campaign as a joke.

"I thought it was kind of like a social commentary -- or it was a publicity stunt," CAS senior Jaclyn Sakow said.

"I played a joke on my roommate. I called his house and told his folks he's been hanging out with drug dealers. His mom got scared. She said, 'You're movin' with your auntie and uncle in Bel Air.' I whistled for a cab and when it came near, the license plate said 'Fresh' and it had dice in the mirror. If anything I can say this cab is rare, but I thought 'Now forgot it.' 'Yo, homes, to Bel Air.'"

Shamelessly Selfish Musical Crossword of Doom!



Your mission, should you accept, is to figure out which music groups these clues suggest. Except, I've omitted the troublesome "the" from the front of a few names. Hint: If I wrote "Round white gemstone made into a preserve," I'd be referring to Pearl Jam. Good Luck!

DOWN

2. A pacifistic woman that belongs to us.
4. Cranium that picks up signals.
5. Small insect plantation owned by extraterrestrials.
6. Birthday pastry.
7. 22.86 centimeter cuticles.
9. Something humans use to complete a task.
10. Son or daughter.
11. Hitting a well-know deity with your hand.
12. 24-hour period of yellow-blue.

ACROSS

1. Steal from reanimated corpse.
3. Even a steady hand and compass probably can't make this.
8. What swimmers have to do to keep going.

Lumped-together Horoscopes (Sign of a lazy overlord.)

ARIES, TAURUS, GEMINI (3/21-6/21): You deserve a good night's sleep. I have the nagging suspicion you haven't been allowing yourself this. Sleep is essential to good health, good grades, and picking up hot chicks/dudes.
CANCER, LEO, VIRGO (6/22-9/22): Your reliance on electronics will be your downfall. Machinery is fragile, just like human relationships. For the sake of your sanity, adopt a pet rock.
LIBRA, SCORPIO, SAGITTARIUS (9/23-12/21): Be ultra super specially safe today! Wear a condom under your bike helmet, wash your hands constantly, don't talk to strangers, and don't leave open food/drink containers unattended.
CAPRICORN, AQUARIUS, PISCES (12/22-3/20): Tap into your hidden talent. It is a special talent, be it writing, painting, or potty-training hamsters.
BORN THIS WEEK?: You were a hungry baby. Your parents are glad that you grew up. Those poor houseplants. That poor family pet.

STUDENT METEOROLOGIST: Bryan Shaw

Precipitation is moving east from the great lakes but as it does it is dissipating and will also track more toward southern New England. The system associated with that will bring cloudiness over the next couple of days and cooler temperatures. It will be dry but temperatures will be well below average for the weekend.

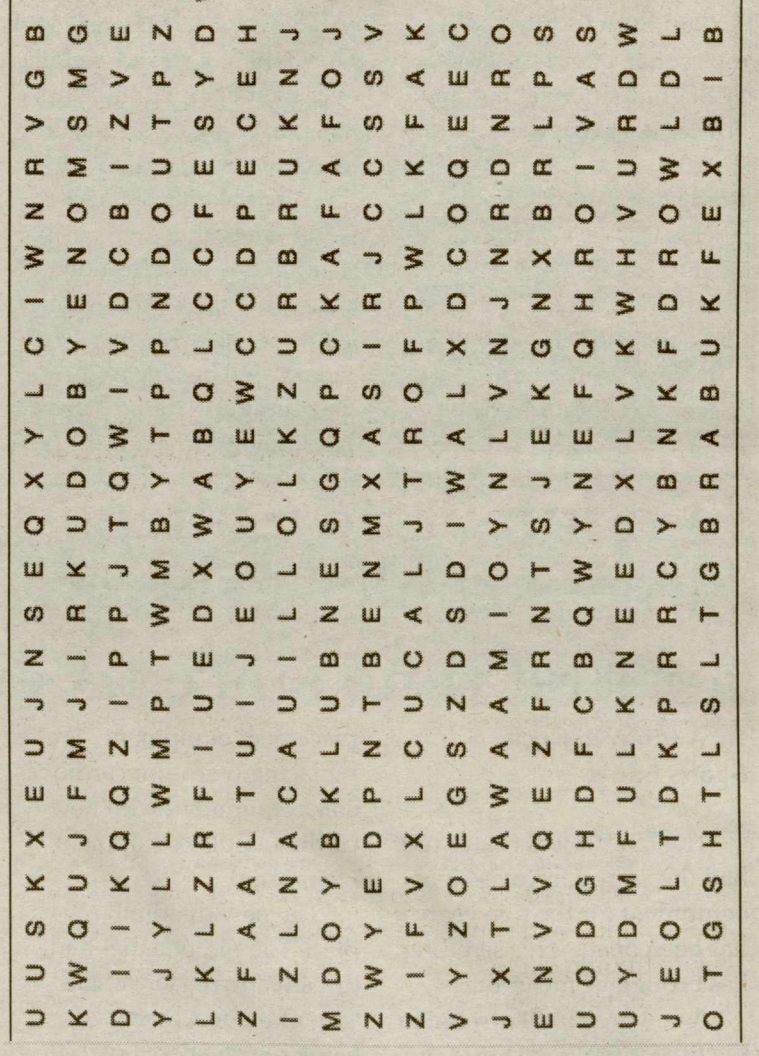
STUMPED!?

For solutions to this week's puzzles as well as last week's, visit our site on the Web at lyndonstate.edu/critic. I wish. It's machine code. [Surprise!] Additional problems can be obtained from your local internet source, or your local math class.

Sudoku of Celibacy

	3	6				1		
					1			
		2	5	6		9		
6	1			3				4
8								
		5	8		7		6	
				1	9	7		
	6	4		8	2	3	1	
			4		3		2	9

Find your desire!

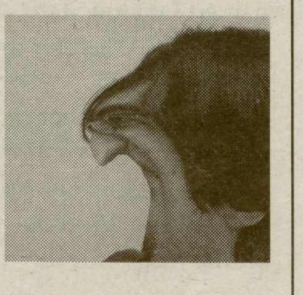


This time, I want you to find certain things that many people search for in life:

LOVE KITTEN SLEEP OCCUPATION
NUDITY SAVIOR ANSWER STUFF

Bonus! There are seven more of these things hidden in the puzzle, but you must find them for yourself, just as every person must find his or her own happiness. The words are all responses I got when I polled people about what they want to get out of life. Don't forget that words are sometimes backward.

Puzzles Generated by Overlord of Fun, Also know as "Eagle Beak." This is the most hastily whipped up fun page in the history of pickles and Superman. Don't look behind you.



The inside scoop on Hornet hoops

By Lauren Potter
Special to the Critic

As the basketball season starts to pick up speed, the Lyndon State College teams prepare for their opening games later this month. For the coaches, the focus is all on leadership and improving on last year's records.

The men's team is coming off an 11-10 season and is hoping to improve this year. Hornet's coach Randy Rathburn said, "[after a strong second half (9-3)] the team seems to be carrying the momentum from the second semester through to this season." Rathburn said the team has great chemistry and has "already gelled very well in the first three weeks."

Rathburn lost two of his top scorers after last season. With graduation taking Brent Fowler (last year's number three) in new directions and Brad Durr (number one) saving his last year of athletic eligibility for his last year of school, returning players have some big shoes to fill. Junior Noah Fisk, sophomore Joe Visker, and junior transfer Cesar Martinez will all be seeing a lot of playing time this season with the open spaces Rathburn said. Senior Jamaal Lawson and freshman Jamason Levesque are both expected to see quite a bit of playing time as well.

Rathburn is looking to captains Kali Stoddard-Imari, a junior, Mike Paul, and Ryan Somers, both seniors, for leadership on and off the court. Rathburn said with the talent level and drive it has this year he expects the team to be very competitive.

Women's basketball coach Vinnie Maloney is "looking for big things" out of his squad this season.

"Everyone is here to win," he said. So the team goal for the season is to avoid the injuries of last year and make it back to nationals. The women's team is well balanced this year, Maloney said. They will have an advantage over their competition, "not one person really stands out. Everyone is very talented." The other team's defense won't know who to focus on.

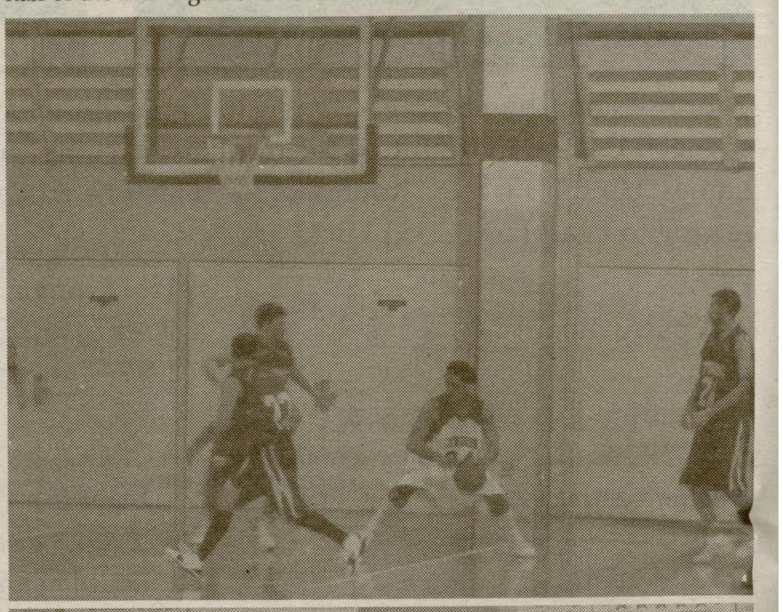
Maloney is welcoming back his entire squad from last year and with only two seniors will be able to continue building for next year. The eight returnees are joined this season by senior Ashlea Bourdon, and freshmen Stephanie Barclay, Jess Lesperance, and Marissa Baggerly. Maloney said he is looking to his captains, senior Whitney Hoyt and junior Elizabeth Hall, to be good role models both on and off the basketball court.

The women had to fight to survive last season, playing some games with only five available players because of all the injuries they had to overcome. Maloney said he hopes the team can keep injuries limited this year so it can keep the tempo of the game up and work on the full court press, something they were not able to do last year with such a limited number of players.

The coaches are looking forward to the end of next week and the opening of the seasons. The men open on Nov. 16 at the New England College tournament against Mt. Ida College. The women start off in Saratoga Springs at the Skidmore tournament against Oswego State on Nov. 17. Both the men and women play their first home games on Nov. 28 against Hesser College. The women play at 5:30 p.m. and the men play at 7:30 p.m.

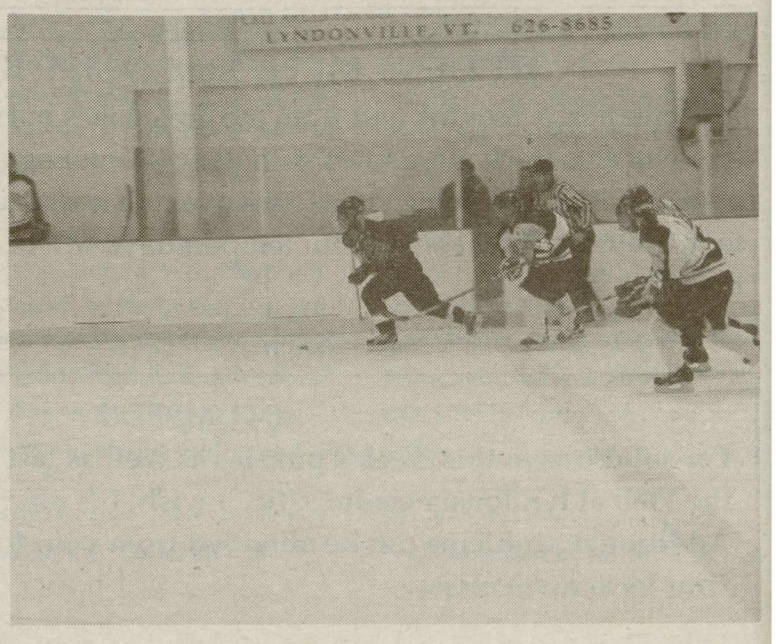
Photos by Thomas Provitz

Above: Sara Fetterhoff of the Lady Hornets, in back, shoots a free throw during the first half of the women's game. The Lady Hornets won, 80-52.
Below: Noah Fink (34) takes the ball to the basket during the second half of the men's game. The men came from behind to win, 85-80.



Photos by Thomas Provitz

Above: Ricky Paparo takes a faceoff during the second period of the Hornets' season-opening hockey game against the Coast Guard Academy on Friday, Nov. 2
Below: The Hornets get back on defense as the Coast Guard Academy brings the puck up the ice.



Fitness center gets new equipment for first time since its expansion

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

The LSC fitness center has had the same cardiovascular equipment for the five years it has been open. This semester has brought some updates.

A new treadmill arrived in the fitness center last Friday, along with a new recumbent bicycle which arrived about a month ago Sue Henry ,Intramural and Facilities Director, said. A recumbent bicycle is a stationary bicycle where the rider sits in a horizontal position instead of a vertical one.

"We've never ordered replacement equipment. We're replacing worn-out cardiovascular equipment with new cardiovascular equipment," Henry said.

The new treadmill replaced an old one that had broken down, Henry said. Two of the machines were being refurbished, but are now back up and running. The new treadmill has brought the fitness center back up to three operating machines.

"This gives people who train outside the opportunity to work out inside. Once the weather changes on us, and the time changes, people start coming inside to work out."

Henry said the workout experience will be improved with the new equipment.

"The new treadmill has a longer warranty and is guaranteed to last longer. The new bike is an alternative to the treadmill for a cardiovascular workout because it has less impact on the body during a workout," Henry said.

The weather is cooling down and the snow is starting to fly, so stay in shape this winter by checking out the new equipment in the fitness center.

What's the buzz with the Hornets?

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

Cross country runners Lyndsay Calkins and Jeremiah Powell have been named Lyndon State's Athletes of the Week for the week ending Nov. 4.

Calkins won her second straight USCAA national champhionship last Friday in Buena Vista, Virginia. Calkins set the record for the six-kilometer course by finishing in 23 minutes, 57.95 seconds.

Calkins was also named to the USCAA's All-American and All-Academic Teams.

Powell finished fifth in the men's national championship race, running the eight-kilometer course in 28 minutes, 45.11 seconds to lead the Hornets to a third-place finish as a team at the meet. Powell was also named to the 2007 USCAA All-American Team.

Upcoming Events

Basketball: 11/16-17: Men @ New England Co11ege Tournament; 11/17-18: Women @ Skidmore Invitational Classic; 11/28: vs. Hesser; women @ 5:30 p.m., men @ 7:30 p.m.
Hockey: 11/9 vs. Bates, 8:15 p.m.; 11/10 vs. Rhode Island College, 5:30 p.m.

Basketball home games: Stannard Gymnasium. Hockey home games: Fenton Chester Arena (across from LI)

The Critic

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One copy free, extras 50 cents each

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Students enjoy games that break the rules, like matress wrestling and tennis with a sandal. pg.6

Girls go wild at the Packing House

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.
Critic Editor

The Packing House recently played host to the Girls Gone Wild bus.

Girls Gone Wild is a video franchise where film crews go to party scenes and film women exposing their chests and sometimes other body parts, usually in exchange for a t-shirt, hat, or bead necklaces.

The Packing House's Saturday night DJs came into contact with franchise's company, Mantra Entertainment, roughly two weeks ago, Jeremy Lawrence, Packing House manager, said.

"We reached capacity," Lawrence said. The Packing House, for safety reasons, doesn't like to let in much more than 400-415 people in at one time. Wednesday night saw almost 500 people come through the door.

"It was crowded as hell," Joey Stewart, LSC junior, said. "I've never seen it that crowded."

By all accounts, more men than women attended the Packing House that evening. "There was a lot more guys than girls," Lawrence said.

"There were, like, hundreds of guys there, but no girls," Stewart said. Stewart arrived at the Packing House shortly after 10:00 p.m. and stayed until 11:00 p.m. "The number-one phrase of the night was 'this is a God damned sausage fest'."

"I think everyone was disappointed," Stewart said. "I certainly was."

Matt Wells, an LSC junior and a bouncer at the Packing House, had a slightly better experience. "I think I had, like, five girls flash me," Wells said. "Usually it's only one or two a month. They don't come out in the winter much."

Wells typically works outside in the designated smoking area, which gets chilly in the winter.

Despite the crowd, The Packing House reportedly didn't have much trouble from rowdy patrons. "It wasn't too bad, but we had a few people show up drunk that we had to turn away," Wells said.

Not everyone was pleased about the Girls Gone Wild film crew being at the Packing House. Pamphlets urging a boycott of Girls Gone Wild and Mantra Entertainment were found lying around the LSC student center during the day on Wednesday. "Joe Francis has over $100 million and all you'll get is a lousy t-shirt," read the front of the pamphlet complete with a picture of Francis, Mantra Entertainment's sole officer. The back of the pamphlet said that Francis, along with his company, had been accused of numerous crimes. It also said that workers in the pornography industry deserve a safe environment with contracts and proper pay, not cheap articles of clothing.

The Packing House has not yet received any complaints about the Girls Gone Wild Film crew showing up, Lawrence said.

Why Lyndonville Vermont of all places? Lawrence said that the Girls Gone Wild film crew is doing a national tour and Vermont is still on the map. The Packing House is also the second largest bar in Vermont, in terms of liquor sales, Lawrence said.

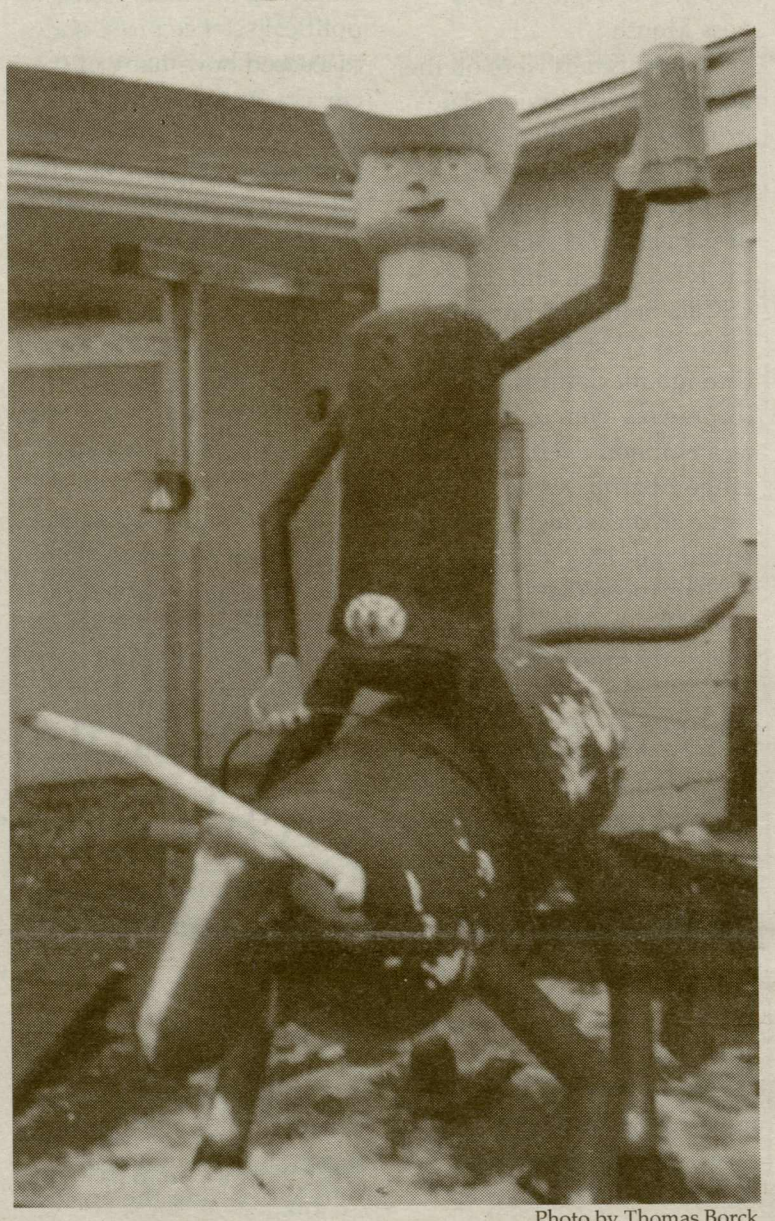


Photo by Thomas Borck

The Girls Gone Wild bus rolled into Lyndonville around 2:00 p.m., took a short tour of the town, then parked in the Packing House parking lot from 8:00 p.m. until about 2:00 a.m. Many a male showed up in hopes of seeing a show, but far more guys than girls attended, leaving a few patrons dissapointed.

Photo by Thomas Borck

The Packing House, the day after the Girls Gone Wild bus paid a visit. Normally, the Packing House has 10-12 bouncers on staff to keep things in relative order. For Wednesday night, 25 bouncers were working.

The Packing House is planning simillar events in the future, but as of now, there's nothing scheduled with Mantra Entertainment to bring the Girls Gone Wild bus back.

Despite the pamphlets found in the LSC student center, urging a boycott of Girls Gone Wild and Mantra Entertainment, the Packing House was packed and has not yet recieved any flak from the community.

LSC chosen to participate in Project Compass

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

LSC was chosen as one of six public colleges in New England to participate in Project Compass, an initiative from the Nellie Mae Education Foundation.

Project Compass aims to increase retention among low-income and minority students, who are the fastest growing segments of the population in New England.

"Only 36 percent of college-qualified low-income students complete bachelor's degrees within eight and a half years, compared with 81 percent of high-income students," President Carol Moore said in a press release dated Oct. 18.

Dean of Academic and Student Affairs, Donna Dalton, said the Nellie Mae Educational Foundation put out a request for four-year colleges in New England to develop proposals for the project. Dalton and Dean of Institutional Advancement Bob Whittaker wrote a proposal to Nellie Mae over the summer. Dalton said that the proposal had to include ideas to boost retention and graduation rates for "minority" students, which include low-income and first-generation college students.

"Under served students are at the greatest risk of dropping out and failing," Dalton said, adding that those students are less likely to come back if they do end up dropping out. "We may need to learn more about individual learning styles and teaching techniques."

Whittaker said in a conference call that a large component of the grant will be going to professional development.

"Sixty percent of our students are first-generation students. Thirty-nine percent of our students are eligible for PELL grants (for low-income students)," Dalton said. "Lyndon State College recognizes that the under served population is growing." She also said that the college's retention rates were not going in the direction officials want them to.

According to First Year Experience Director Donna Keely, boosting retention rates is part of the college's strategic priorities for the next five years. Dalton said under their proposed plan Lyndon officials would like to see retention rates rise by two percent per year over the next five years. Their goal is to boost retention to 68 percent for first-year college students, and 75 percent overall. Current retention rates stand at an estimated 53.7 percent for first-time, full-time freshmen students and 67.5 percent for all students.

Attendance at Political Forum LSC is not hyped about politics

By Tabitha Fitzgerald
Critic Staff

Hot Current issues were discussed at the forum held in the Alexander Twilight Theater. The forum was held in honor of Political Awareness Month.

Many issues were on the agenda for discussion. The problem was only about 15 people showed up. Of these 15 only about 5 were not RAs or panelists. E-mails about the forum were sent out to LSCall. Signs and posters were also distributed throughout campus. The forum was even publicized as a Horizon Event Hope Hope Abarno, RA said. Yet these advertisements did not entice campus participation.

For those that did attend the event the most discussed topic was same sex marriage. Kate Gold, Student Success Specialist, said that she didn't see what the problem with same sex marriages was. The government shouldn't have a say in who a person can or cannot marry. Dave Plazk, resident political science professor, discussed how many of the current Republican candidates for 2008 are okay with same sex marriages, and how this may mean that the next election will bring about changes on a national scale.

"Civil rights come slowly," Vicki Litzinger, Director of Library Instructional Technology, said. "We have to take the successes step by small step."

Another popular topic was oil and energy. The discussion centered on alternative methods, such as wind turbines, and the pros and cons of these methods. "We are in a whining phase. We don't see the necessity yet," Litzinger said of the national view on alternative energy sources.

Other topics discussed at the forum included; foreign policy, the three strike rule, US prisons, the P.A.T.R.I.O.T. Act, the war on drugs, the death penalty, and Universal Health Care.

With as much political discussion as he hears on campus, Bob Tobin, a junior, said he was surprised there wasn't a better turn out. More people would have allowed for a deeper analysis of the topics that were just brushed upon by the attendees.

Next time Abarno said she hopes to get the professors and students from the INT-1020 classes involved.

LSC recruitment effort goes international

By Amanda Wozniak
Critic Staff

Admissions Counselor Mary Cooper took action in international recruitment in early Nov.

Taking recruitment to Canada was a big step for LSC. "Actively recruiting from other countries has not been established," Cooper said. "In the past six years there has been no international recruiting, Associate Director of Admissions Bernard Hartshorn said.

Cooper went to Canada with other college representatives from New England. She spent two days in Newfoundland, and three days in Montreal. The "tour" was coordinated by Autopista Americas, a company that offers "strategic marketing services" to academic institutions.

"By doing the tour it educates us on different opportunities and the students on what there is in the US," Coopersaid. She added that this is a start. We need a foundation before progressing, she said.

"Montreal is only two hours and fifteen minutes away," Cooper said. "Because of its proximity and having the same weather conditions it makes sense to recruit there," she added.

Cooper visited 13 colleges in Canada that held college fairs where students could gain knowledge about LSC. A booth was set up where students could get an understanding about the school through the marketing materials and Cooper.

Some of the other colleges, which attended this tour, included: Penn State, Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston, and Savannah College of Art in Atlanta.

At this point it is difficult to see the results of the tour. Admissions will have to wait until enrollment of next year in order to see how many students this strategy brought in. "It's an educational opportunity for us," Cooper said. She also added that international recruiting is more expensive for Lyndon State. Following up on international students' mail is more expensive due to customs. E-mail can be used to narrow down the more serious students. International students also have different deadlines for enrollment; they must deal with visas and receive no state funding.

New stem cell findings may shed light on researching controversies

By Tatiana Lau
The Daily Princetonian

PRINCETON, N.J.(U-WIRE) - Though the issue of embryonic stem cell research has been one of the most contentious political topics in recent years, a landmark discovery may finally bring an end to the debate.

In two separate studies published last week, researchers from Kyoto University and the University of Wisconsin -- led by Shinya Yamanaka and James Thomson, respectively -- announced that they had successfully reprogrammed normal human skin cells to act like embryonic stem cells.

"I think it's probably the most important finding in biology in 10 years," molecular biology and Wilson School professor Lee Silver said.

The findings may render moot the ethical debate over the use of embryonic stem cells for research. Developed in 1998, the original method for procuring the cells involved removing eggs from an ovary, fertilizing the eggs in vitro and removing embryonic stem cells from the resulting blastocyst.

The process raised concerns from opponents who argued that embryos, as nascent human life, merit the same protections as humans who have already been born.

In 2001, President Bush signed a bill that provided federal funding to research using the already existing stem cell lines and not to research using new lines, thereby limiting the amount of research that could be done. Additionally, New Jersey voters rejected a ballot referendum this month that would have lent $450 million for stem cell research in the state.

Under the new method publicized last week, skin cells are removed from a human, after which four genes are inserted into the cells. The inserted genes, transported by way of a retrovirus, then transform the skin cells into pluripotent stem cells, which are capable of differentiating into various cell types.

The transformed cells are referred to as "induced pluripotent stem cells," or iPS. The iPS method is so straightforward that its creator, Yamanaka, told The Wall Street Journal that "any scientist with basic technology in molecular and cell biology can do [the] reprogramming."

Silver said that the method is "such that scientists could be able to repeat [it] easily."

"Once we have an understanding of the biology of cells, there's no limit to what we could transform," he said. Silver added that he expected the new method, if verified, would be immediately adopted by researchers around the world.

Though the new method is being touted as a far less controversial alternative to embryonic research, former University president Harold Shapiro, Princeton University class of '64 -- a former chairman of the National Bioethics Advisory Commission who in 2005 was named the overseer of stem cell research in New Jersey -- said in an e-mail that the value of embryonic stem cell research should not be minimized.

"It is worth noting that without human embryonic cell lines, the Wisconsin and Kyoto work could not have progressed, since the embryonic cell lines provided us with the 'markers' for pluripotency," Shapiro said.

Shapiro added that, while he was confident about the legitimacy of the new findings, embryonic stem cells will continue to play a vital role in research. "It is quite possible that we will continue to need human embryonic stem cells for some aspects of the continuing research program surrounding stem cells," Shapiro said.

But politics professor Robert George, who serves on Bush's council on bioethics and has vocally weighed in against embryonic stem cell research in the past, lauded the new method as a way to balance the needs of science and ethics.

"From the beginning we have been arguing that we must do everything we can to advance the cause of stem cell science but without sacrificing our respect for nascent human life and the principle of the inherent and equal dignity of each and every member of the human family," he told the conservative publication The Weekly Standard last Wednesday. "This latest news just goes to show that it really is possible."

Silver said the new findings would level the playing field for researchers around the world. Because of the ethical issues surrounding embryonic stem cell procurement, many governments have banned embryonic stem cell research, while others -- including those of California and Singapore -- have legalized it. This has led scientists to flock to jurisdictions that permit the use of embryonic stem cells.

With the iPS method, however, scientists will no longer have to relocate in order to legally conduct cutting-edge research. "There will be no more geographic disparity," Silver said.

Silver added that, though the iPS method has not been perfected, any problems with the procedure will likely be discovered soon.

One risk is that the genes in the transporting virus could become incorporated into the genes of the transformed cells, causing them to become cancerous or acquire other negative characteristics.

"Clearly some further work needs to be done to fully understand the potential of this discovery ... and continue to improve our understanding of genetic reprogramming," Shapiro said. "Most importantly, we need to let enough time to pass to carefully evaluate this discovery and its implications for a broad set of issues."

BSC Board will vote on ability to punish publications for vulgar language

By Aaron Hedg
The Rocky Mountain Collegian,
Colorado State University (Fort Collins, U-Wire)-In response to a September editorial in the Collegian that read "Taser This... F*** Bush," the Board of Student Communications, the paper's publisher, is considering adopting revisions to their bylaws that allow them to punish the editor in chief for printing profanity.

In its meeting last Tuesday, the Board voted to entertain a change in a clause in their policy that states: "University officials ... cannot censor or punish the occasional use of indecent, vulgar or so called 'four-letter' words in student publications."

The proposed revision, which is set to be voted on in December, would strike "or punish" from the clause -- a move both the Collegian editor in chief and Student Media general manager said is a step toward censorship.

James Landers, interim president of the BSC and the faculty member who proposed the revision, said the BSC is acting publisher of the Collegian and should have the authority to hold the editor in chief to standards established in the policy manual.

"As publisher, BSC has ultimate authority," Landers said in an e-mail to the Collegian. "This reflects reality. In the real world, which the Collegian is supposed to prepare you for, an editor works for a publisher."

Landers said the publisher of a newspaper traditionally has the right to impose rules on and review the behavior of the editor of the respective paper.

But a lawyer with the Student Press Law Center, an organization of lawyers devoted to protecting the rights of student journalists, said the revision could be considered an under-the-rug form of censorship.

Mike Hiestand, a lawyer with SPLC, said a private publisher can punish an editor for content-related issues, but a government agency, such as the BSC, is restricted under the First Amendment.

"It's pretty chilling," Hiestand said. "That's the sort of thing I would fight tooth and nail."

Jeff Browne, Student Media director and BSC general manager (a non-voting member of the Board), said the change could mean trouble for the Collegian.

"My initial response was that I thought it would sound like de facto censorship because a publisher or publishing board that consists of university employees, if it had the ability to punish an editor, it could be construed as a back door-way toward censorship," Browne said. "But Jim (Landers) has a different view of that."

Collegian Editor in Chief J. David McSwane said if the revision is voted into policy, it will set a bad precedent for colleges across the country.

"To change the language in such a way so soon after what we went through with the F-Bush editorial is irresponsible and ultimately a disservice to students," McSwane, a non-voting Board member, said.

Landers said the distinction between use of profanity in opinion writing and news coverage was overlooked in defense of the editorial. The BSC Manual states, "Profane and vulgar words are unacceptable for opinion writing."

At a public forum where students and community members voiced their opinions about the editorial to the BSC after it was printed, one student defended McSwane by citing a magazine article in which Bush was quoted using profanity.

"In 1999. The then Governor, George W. Bush, had an interview with Tucker Carlson in this magazine called Talk Magazine, which he was being interviewed about corporal punishment. In that magazine, George W. Bush was quoted in saying the F-word three times in the first paragraph of that interview," said Kristopher Hite, a natural sciences graduate student at CSU.

"I agree that an editor of a college newspaper should not be held to any higher standard than the President of the United States," Hite said.

But Landers said that the F*** Bush situation is different.

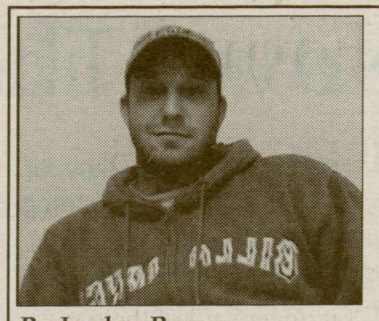
"It became obvious during the public forum after the F-word editorial that references of news coverage were cited as support of the use of profanity and vulgarity when 'essential to the readers' understanding of the situation,' while the distinct proscription of the same for opinion writing received less attention," Landers said in an e-mail message.

Hiestand said if the BSC votes for the change, it could jeopardize the collegiate free press nationwide.

"If other school officials are watching and see that CSU got away with it, who knows?" he said. "It just looks bad ... CSU should know better."

McSwane attended last Tuesday's BSC meeting and said he was dismissed early before the revision proposal -- which was not on the meeting agenda -- was handed out to the voting members.

"I'd call it more than a little dirty and shady," he said.



Holy Sheet

By Jordan Royer
Sex columnist

The holidays are coming, so those of you in a relationship have two options. Find a gift for that special someone in your life or dump them in time to save a little cash. Well, if that someone is a little too important to ditch just to save a little money, then you should start to think about the perfect holiday gift.

You googily-eyed love birds who are in a real serious relationship may decide to splurge and spend the big bucks. I understand, I was once struck by a mis-aimed arrow of cupid and thought I needed to spend the big bucks to win the love of my fair lady. Just so you know it is not necessarily the amount you spend, but getting the gift that means the most.

I can't speak for anyone but myself, but I do know that the cheesy cliché, it's the thought that counts, actually rings true in some cases. I am not saying however, that you should make the woman of your dreams a paint-by-numbers card like you did for your mother when you were six.

Having gone through the, I'll buy her fancy jewelry, stylish clothes, designer handbags faze, I have come to realize I should save money and get things that for one, cost less and two, are way more practical.

Fresh relationships are a little tougher when it comes to holiday shopping. Being your first holiday experience together you don't know exactly what to expect. This leaves you with a few more questions of what to buy. To be honest, this is where I think a lot of relationships can spiral downward. Say you are the type of person that doesn't believe in spending a lot of money. Don't fool your partner into thinking you are a high roller by bathing them in gifts. Be honest with your partner and get them what the relationship deserves. Overspending on that special someone can back-fire two ways-

A) Next year your partner will expect more, maybe something you won't be able to afford.

B) Your partner wasn't really that into you and takes the gift and runs, leaving you fresh out of cash and broken hearted.

Too many times I think people enter the holiday season without talking to their partners about gift giving. That is just foolish. Talk is the most important part of a relationship and that doesn't change when Santa comes to town.

Here are a few gift ideas that don't break the bank but can make your partner...and you happy.

-Sex Scratches: (Around $10) For those who love scratch tickets and sex these will give you a fun and exciting way to spice up your sex life.

-Stroke 29: ($2 and up) Ladies, if you ever plan on going away for a while and leaving your man to pleasure himself, get him some Stroke 29 and you will be sure he won't leave his room. (I've used it, the stuff is amazing!)

-Kama Sutra Cards: (Around $15) It is like the Kama Sutra in a deck of cards. Flip through these to get position ideas and advice on sexual technique.

Those are just a few of the many gift ideas out there this holiday season. Find the one that is best for your partner and have a wonderful holiday season. Remember, be smart-wrap your dart!

Position of the Week-
Leap Frog

Letter Policy:

The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must be signed and include the author's phone number and address. The Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:

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LSC visits Europe over Thanksgiving break

Gillian Moore
Special to the Critic

"Ladies and gentlemen, we are now approaching Heathrow Airport, please return to your seats and fasten your seatbelts."

We heard the announcement over the plane's intercom but couldn't believe it. Our overnight six and a half hour flight seemed like minutes thanks to our personal TV screens, endless movies to watch and countless games to play.

"It is now 6:50 a.m. in London, and we will be landing in about 10 minutes."

All 29 of us (9 were already in London) hadn't slept on the plane, and now had to tour all of London on absolutely no sleep. Since we had lost a day in London, due to our original flight getting cancelled, our tour guide, Sean, decided to squeeze everything he could into one day in London. We saw the River Thames, which gives the city its name: the Celtic word Llyn-Dyn means "city of the lake". Next it was onto Grosvenor Square, where the U.S. embassy is located. Then we traveled to the Piccadilly Circus, where 5 busy streets intersect. We saw the house of Parliament and the famous London Bridge, although the original London Bridge is located in Lake Havasu City, Arizona. And of course we saw Westminster Abbey and Big Ben. By the time this day was over we were more than ready for bed. "Alexandre snoring on the bus was priceless," senior Michelle Bachand said of our professor, Dr. Strokanov. "Apparently me snoring on the bus was pretty funny, too."

The next day we traveled to Oxford University, the oldest university in the English-speaking world. President Bill Clinton studied abroad there for a semester, and 14 prime ministers have graduated from Oxford as well.

A short bus ride north brought us to Stratford-upon-Avon, the birthplace and town of Shakespeare. After visiting his house and the room he was born in, we were allowed to stroll around the town for a bit.

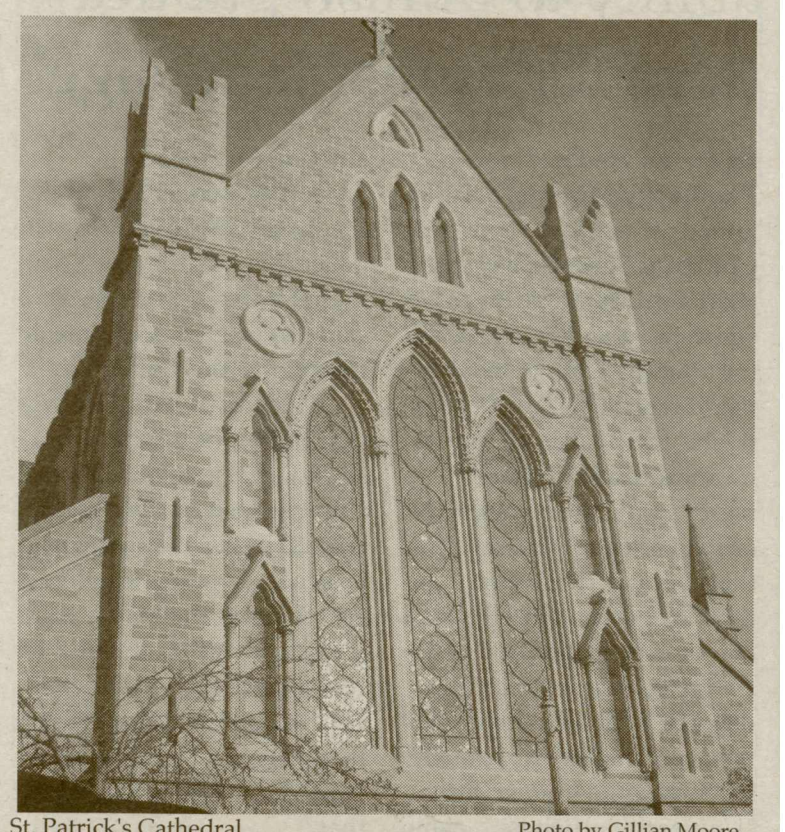
That night we stayed at the Hand Hotel in Wales, which was supposedly haunted. Except for a key that went missing, only to then later reappear in the door, no one had any ghost stories to tell.

Our last day in Wales, we spent some time at Beaumaris Castle. It was built by Edward I to prove his authority over the Welsh. Built in 1295, this castle is the most technically perfect castle in Britain, with its symmetrical walls and design.

That afternoon we traveled by ferry across the Irish Sea to Dublin, Ireland. The next day, we rode the bus around Dublin, saw the president's house, the River Liffey, and made our stop at the 800-year-old St. Patrick's Cathedral, which was built in honor of the patron saint of Ireland who brought the country Christianity in the 5th century.

"Dublin was one of the funniest places I have ever been," senior Melinda Fay said. "I loved the people there. It's like a hidden treasure waiting to be explored. I move there in a heartbeat."

Next we stopped at Trinity College and viewed an exhibit of the Book of Kells, a copy of the four gospels, which was written by Irish monks and was found buried in 1007.



St. Patrick's Cathedral Photo by Gillian Moore

Day six included a trip to Blarney Castle, where the famous Blarney Stone is kept. According to legend, those who kiss the stone will receive the "gift of gab", also known as the gift of eloquence. A few brave souls on our trip climbed all the way to the top of the castle, leaned backwards under the edge of the platform, and kissed the ancient stone.

On our last full day in Ireland, our group decided to take a bus ride around the Dingle Peninsula. We were able to experience the other side of the Atlantic Ocean, viewed islands where the monks found refuge from the Vikings, and, on yet another rainy day in Ireland, we saw more than our fair share of rainbows.

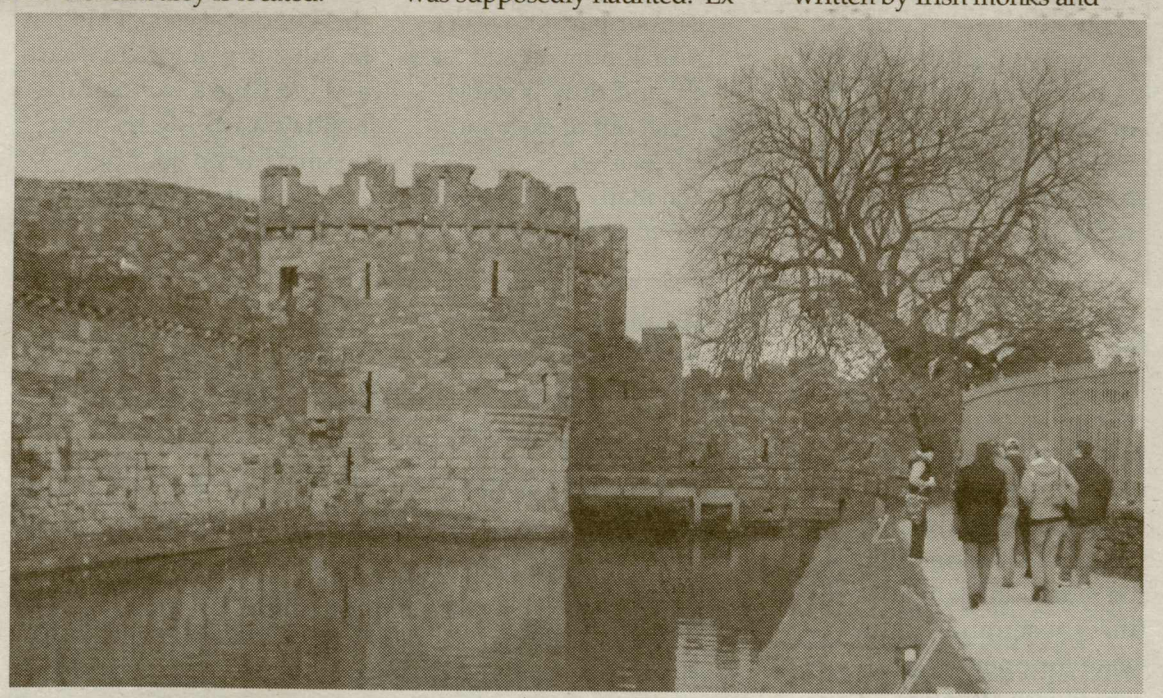
The trip was successful in bringing people closer. Some of us on the trip were complete strangers, soon to become friends. We roomed with people we didn't know, got to know everyone a little better through shared experiences, and in the end came home with many exceptional memories.

Senior TV Studies major, Ariana Massimilla said, "I personally loved the landscape, how green it all was, and the mountain sides and what not."

Sarah Willey, senior Psychology and Human Services major, enjoyed the history, "I liked being in countries where the history surpassed the United States' history by thousands of years."

"I really loved learning about all the history in the buildings and places we visited," Kerrin Jeromin, senior Meteorology major, said. "Seeing and experiencing other cultures is a truly amazing opportunity."

Dr. Strokanov's next trips include China (Beijing, Xian, Shanghai) over February break, Romantic Europe (Venice, Florence, Pisa, Monaco, Nice, Paris) over April break, and Central Europe (Munich, Prague, Vienna, Budapest) in May after graduation.



Top to bottom: Beaumaris Castle, Shakespeare's House, Big Ben Photo by Gillian Moore

Buck Beliles, English Teacher Extraordinare

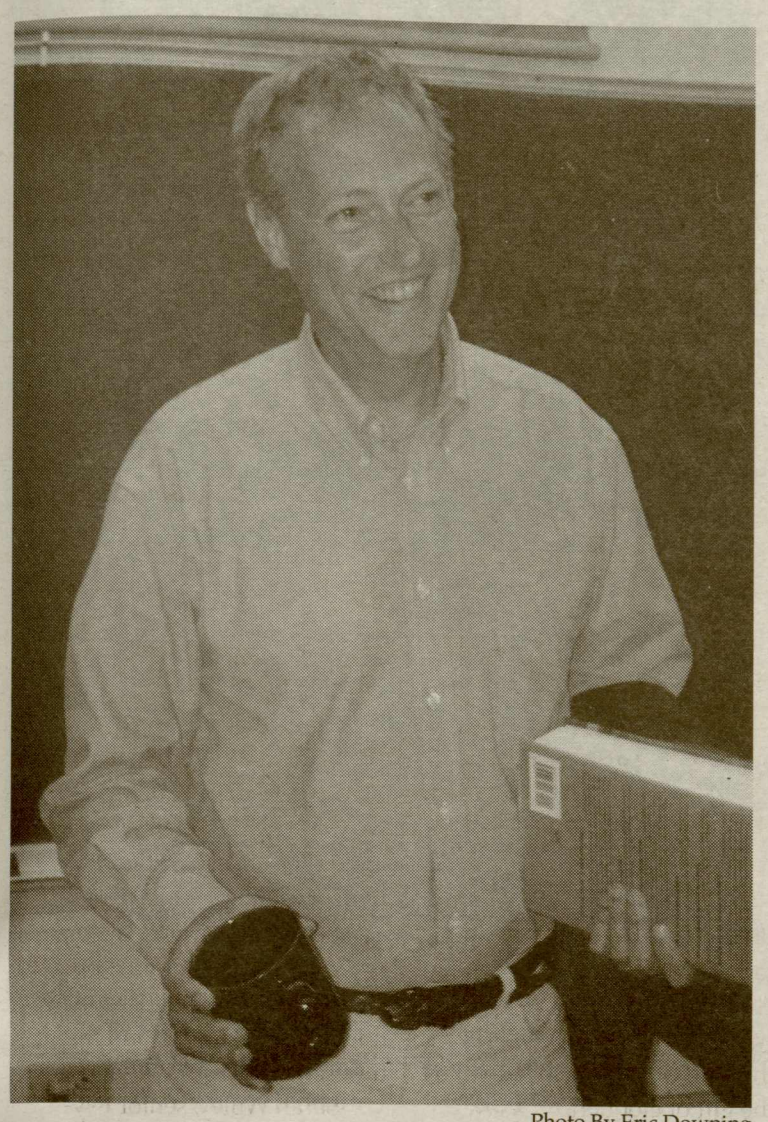


Photo By Eric Downing
Beliles has been a professor at LSC for 16 years. The flexable hours, his colleagues, and the students make the job rewarding for him.

By Eric Downing
Critic Staff

This coming semester LSC English Professor Dr. David "Buck" Beliles is offering a 4000-level Shakespeare class.

"One of the things I like is having upper level seminars," Beliles said.

Beliles is an experienced member of our faculty, with 16 years under his belt. He got his job here while getting his PHD at Vanderbilt. He came to work at LSC because "They offered me the job," Beliles sad. "Teaching English lit class jobs are scarce."

Although he might not be seen on campus every day, Beliles is a busy man. Every weeknight during the school year, he stays up until 11:00 p.m. on average. During weekends, he estimated that he spends around 30 hours grading papers and reading for class, which he says is "pretty common." Beliles says that professors tend to work lots of hours, "it's the only way to stay on top of it."

Even during the summer, he tends to devote 20 hours a week to preparing for the coming school year. Another thing he does during that time is design new courses. Beliles usually comes up with one or two new classes every year.

On top of all this, Beliles is just getting close to completing his house in Waterford. Beliles said that he and his family moved in when there was only one room finished. "We kind of camped out for a while there," Beliles said.

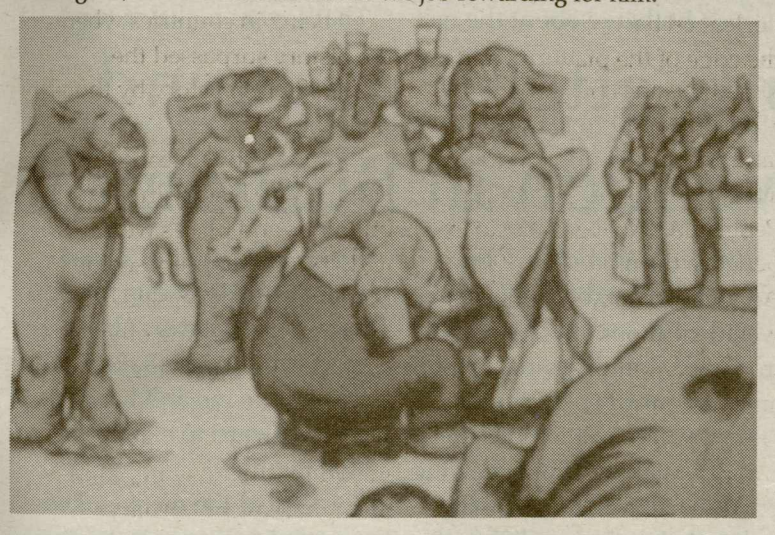
One of the things that Beliles likes about teaching is a good class discussion. "I get to read great stuff and talk about it with others," he said.

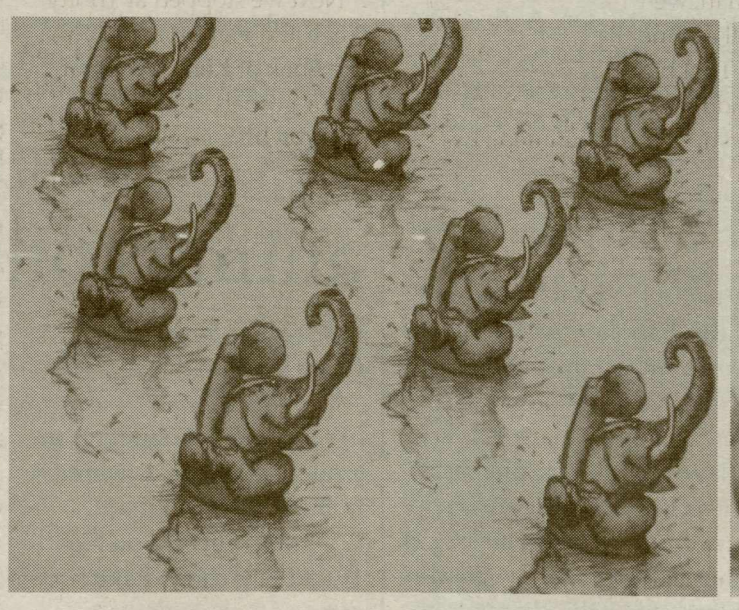
His best memory from working at LSC? He couldn't think of just one, but said his good memories are the "outstanding students [I'm] lucky enough to have."

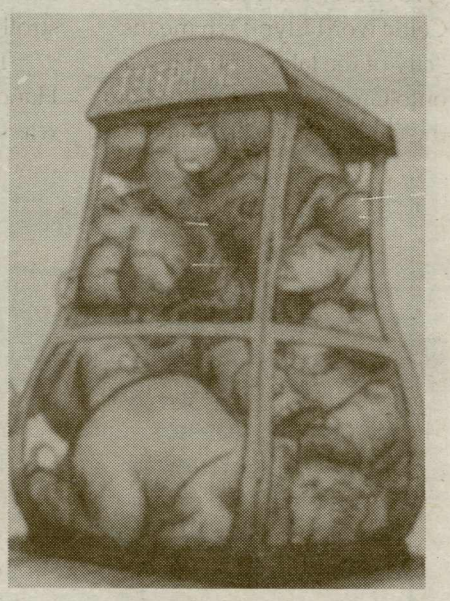
Also, not just English majors enjoy Beliles' teaching. "He's a cool guy," said Meteorology major Dan Brook, who took Representing the World with Beliles, "He's very easy to talk to."

Some students even continue to communicate with him after graduation. "E-mail is amazing," he said, "[it's] wonderful to hear what successes they have." Beliles said the worse thing for an English teacher, however, is feeling that a student "got nothing out of your class."

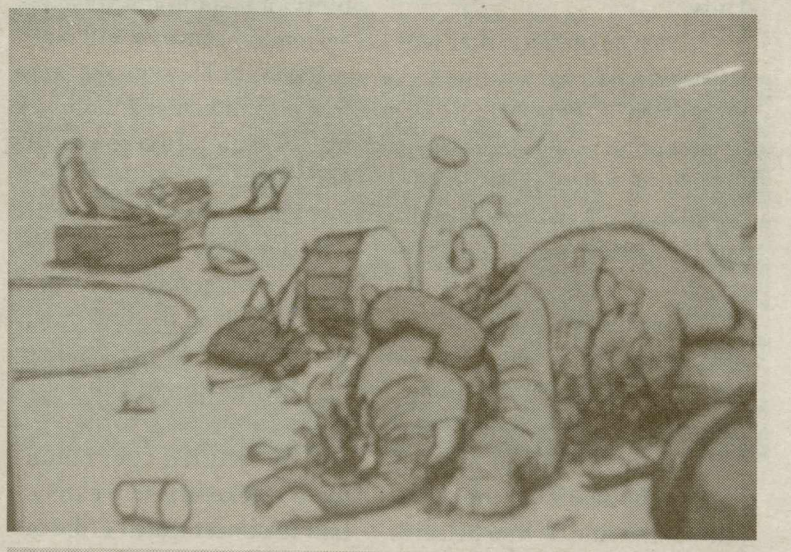
Beliles enjoys the flexibility of his hours. Having two daughters, one of whom is still in middle school, he finds it convenient that he can just pick her up from school and take her to her after school activities. He can then grade papers when he has spare time. Beliles also enjoys his colleagues, finding great conversation with them on a regular basis. "It's a good place to work," Beliles said.

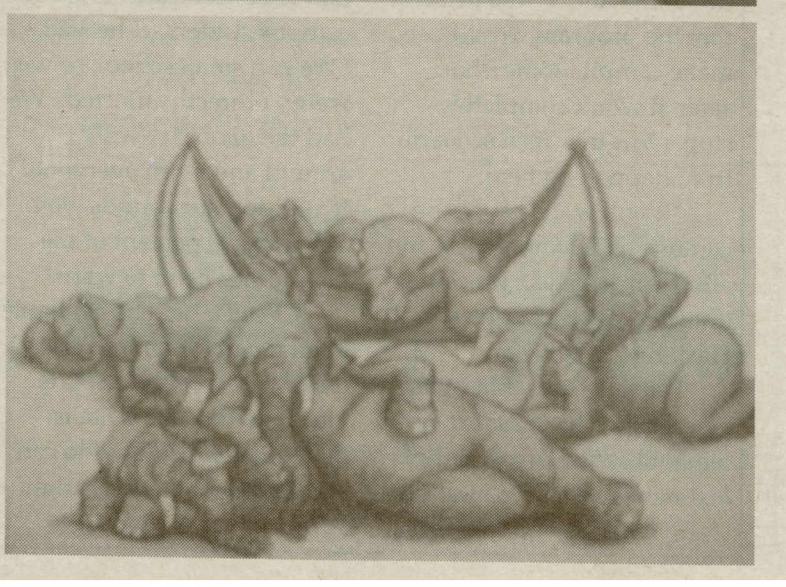






Photos By Joey Stewar,t
The Quimby Gallery opened on Thursday night. The Gallery is showing Barklay Tucker's illustrations to his book "The 12 Elephants of Christmas." These illustrations will be available for veiwing from Nov. 29-Dec. 21.





"Hall Sports" the underground competition

By Eric Downing
Critc Staff

Hall sports are against campus policy but that doesn't stop residence from playing.

Since they are not allowed to be played in the residence halls at LSC it's hard to find out about them. The students interviewed for this article are referred to by fake names to protect their identities.

"Hall Sport" is a term that refers to any game played within a suite that typically involves improvised equipment. Standard materials include bottles, cans, trash barrels, and any kind of ball available. "They've been around for generations," said one of the participants.

There are numerous games, but some are more common than others.

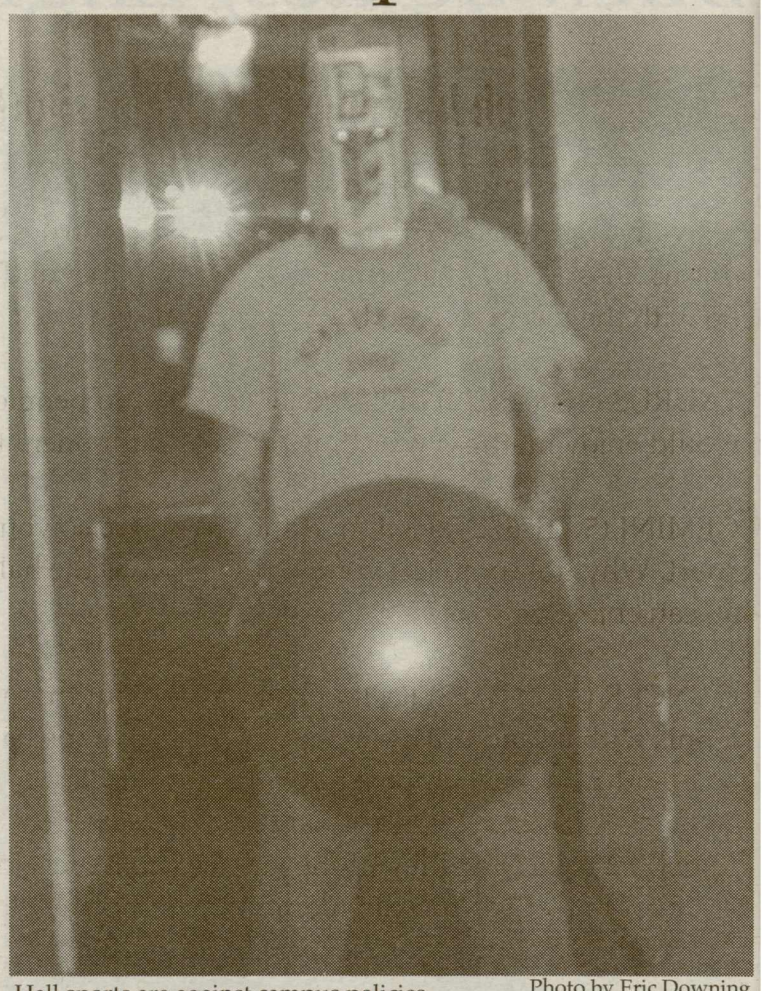
New games are invented on the spur of the moment. Some games are only played a couple of times and then abandoned completely. A few games, however, stood out to the interviewed students.

The most infamous of the Hall Sports is "Tennis ball with a sandal." It operates sort of like baseball, replacing a tennis ball for the baseball and a sandal for the bat. This game is "very dangerous," said an anonymous students, as the ball's travel is very erratic and unpredictable. "Pooky Bear", as he is called by his Hall Sport teammates, admitted to being "nailed" in the head at least once during this sport.

A student by the alias of "Frodo" brought up the game of bowling. Collected recycling cans are used as the pins in this game; while any ball available (often the tennis ball) is used to bowl. This game may be the most common one on campus. Another anonymous student said he enjoys tackle football inside as well.

Another game that is played in the halls is "mattress wrestling." This sport involves at least two people. "You take your mattresses and ram into each other," said "Pooky Bear". The rationale behind this sport is that it's a lot safer than contact wrestling, the mattress serving as a protective barrier for the combatants.

The game "Jousting" has many variations. A common one consists of two people on bicycles, each with a stick in hand. The two players then peddle into each other as fast as possible. "This hallway is not big enough," complained "TGB" of his suite's common area.



Hall sports are against campus policies Photo by Eric Downing

What's so appealing about Hall Sports? "They're dangerous," says "TGB". "Risky and risqué.". The students interviewed weren't even bothered about the fact that Hall Sports are against campus policy and they could therefore be documented for them. "[I feel] perfectly fine," said "TGB". "That's the whole point. That's what makes it fun."

ClearTxt system coming to LSC

By Andrew Koch
Sports Editor

In the wake of the shootings at Virginia Tech last spring, and the murder-suicide in downtown Lyndonville last year, Lyndon State's Public Safety department has decided to bring a new warning system to campus.

According to Public Safety director George Hacking, the department was looking into bringing ClearTxt to campus prior to the Virginia Tech tragedy. He said that the massacre made the college move a little quicker to pick a company that would provide good service to the LSC community.

"It was obvious that we needed to do something to forewarn students in the event of an emergency," Hacking, who will be an administrator for the program when it is up and running, said.

Hacking also said that the decision to bring ClearTxt here was made by everyone starting at the top with President Carol Moore and the department deans, all the way down the line. While he said that the program would make campus somewhat safer, it won't completely stop a Virginia Tech scenario from happening here.

"It will warn people on campus of an emergency, and allow them to take precautions to save themselves," Hacking said.

Hacking says that in an emergency, the ClearTxt system will send out a series of text messages and e-mails, along with pop-up messages on campus computers to notify staff and students of the situation. The system will only send out these messages in a true emergency, such as a fire, bomb threat, or an armed intruder. At this time, messages are being created for those types of scenarios. However, it will not be used to announce things such as class cancellations.

"It'll be used in an event where if you don't do something right away, you could be in harm's way. We'd want to use it in those situations," Hacking said, adding that ClearTxt will be used as a "layer" in the campus security plan. In addition to pop-up, e-mail and text messages that will be used, the possibility of installing a speaker system on campus will be discussed. This speaker system would be used mainly to broadcast information during emergencies.

Hacking feels that even without ClearTxt, his department did a good job warning people during the lockdown that occurred last fall following the murder-suicide in Lyndonville.

"It occurred after hours (on a weekend), so we only had to concentrate on the on-campus students," he said. "We're a small school, so we weren't directly affected. We had the luxury to walk around and warn everyone. If you do your rounds, you can warn 90 percent of the people you need to warn."

ClearTxt will be available to all faculty, staff and students here at Lyndon State. Hacking said that a list is being developed of who can access the program as administrators.

LSC students attend weekend anime convention in Burlington

By Heather Perkins
Critic Staff

Several LSC students attended an anime convention in Burlington, Vermont.

The event was on Nov. 9-11 and was called Bakuretsucon.

"Generally speaking, I'd say we had an excellent convention this year. We had a few excellent guests, like Tiffany Grant and Steve Bennett, excellent attendees, and hopefully as staff we weren't too bad either. We've got a lot more great things in store for next year, and it should go without a hitch," said Mike Johnson, vice chair. "Our attendance this year was around 600 people, a record high for us, and we're looking forward to even more next year."

Events took place all weekend, including various contests like the cosplay (a type of anime costume contest), AMV (Anime Music Video) contests, art, and video game tournaments.

There were panels that featured the convention's guests, and always popular for having voice actors from shows; as Johnson mentioned, Tiffany Grant and Steve Bennett were attendees. Other events throughout the weekend were ones such as Japanese 101, Cell Painting, Sewing Basics for Cosplay, the Tea Ceremony, and various anime dating games. Video viewing rooms were set up to constantly be playing different shows.

"I can honestly say that this year's Bakuretsucon was by far, the best con I've ever been to! Although, it's only the second con I've participated it, but hell, I still loved it!" said Vincent Henry, an attendee cosplayer. "The only thing I could see for need of improvements, would be that there were too many good panels going on and anime, that I wish I could have cloned myself!"

Jeff Reckers, head A/V technician, says that, "As for how 2007 went, it was a typical year - great guests, friendly staff, increased attendance, and tons of fun. There were some bumps along the way, but, as always, they get smoothed over and everybody has a great time."

The convention, many believe, is like a family. Kimberly Caron, Bakuretsucon staff, is one of those believers. "I had a great time at the con this year. I met lots of new friends and was able to reminisce with the ones I have made in the past. Baku is like a family to me and I always look forward to expanding that family."

One of the most looked forward to events is the Yankee Battle Auction Royale, where competitors pay $2.00 upon entering. Participants draw numbers and take turns selecting bagged items, all of which are worth at least $2.00, and have the chance to steal items from other people (which is followed by a resounding shout of "bonsai"), all to try and get the "ultimate" prize available.

And of course there is the cosplay contest. Cosplayers are people who wear costumes, most often handmade, as characters from various anime. During the contest people walk up on stage for photos, and many perform short skits, and a number of awards given at the end.

This year the staff worked hard even though many of them wished they had more behind-the-scenes people, but overall the event went well, and they look forward to having even more fans come 2008.

Fun Page

"I read the news today. Oh boy. Naturally, I then went to the fun page to cheer myself up. I was sorely disappointed..."

-You, tomorrow

Which hall sport fits your sign?

ARIES (3/21-4/19) For the light at heart, many hall sports are too intense. Slow down the pace with turtle racing. Since turtles are banned from the dorms, make your own with construction paper and string. Cheer on your turtle with the fervor of a Red Sox or Yankees fan.

TAURUS (4/20-5/20) Bulls like to charge into people, so I think our taureans would enjoy mattress wrestling. Pin your opponent to show your strength!

GEMINI (5/21-6/21) Gemini is the twin sign, so you'd probably enjoy a team sport. Why not try to lug your X-Box out into the hall and play Madden where all can enjoy?

CANCER (6/22-7/22) Feeling crabby? Get out those aggressions by playing tennis with a sandal. The erratic travellings of the ball, along with its destructive tendencies, will appeal to your sadistic side.

LEO (7/23-8/22) As king of the jungle, you have a lot to prove in the way of your courage, Leo. You can maintain your honor with a bout of jousting. Decide with your opponent the terms of your duel and begin!

VIRGO (8/23-9/22) Ah, gentle Virgo! We have a sport for you, too! Express your tender creative side by laying a large piece of thick white paper on the floor and walking on it, your shoes covered in paint. When the artwork is done, hang it up for all to enjoy!

LIBRA (9/23-10/23) Libra, you will surely enjoy testing your aim by bowling with bottles and cans. Expert bowlers can use a golf ball. Hopeless cases may consider a beach ball.

SCORPIO (10/24-11/21) Let life slide a little with mattress surfing. All you need is a good mattress and a wide stairwell. Proper safety equipment is recommended for this sport. Injury risks are high.

SAGITTARIUS (11/22-12/21) Since Sagittarius is basically an archer, the hall sport for you would involve archery... How about jockstrap bow? Attach a (clean) jockstrap to a small broom handle and use it to launch pencils. Do NOT aim at people!

CAPRICORN (12/22-1/19) Dried cobs of corn make great melee weapons. Did you know that? Make sword fighting a lot safer by using harmless ears of corn. You won't regret it, unless of course you have to pick up the kernels.

AQUARIUS (1/20-2/18) Want to add an aquatic element to hall fun? If the bathroom floods, don't complain. Start up a game of bathroom water polo. Or Marco Polo, for those who don't know how to play the former.

PISCES (2/19-3/20) Did you know that fish are known for their steathly ways? You too can exhibit awesome espionage skills by playing hallway ninja! Sneak up behind your suitements under the guise of a harmless moving blanket or cardboard box.

STUDENT METEOROLOGIST: Bryan Shaw

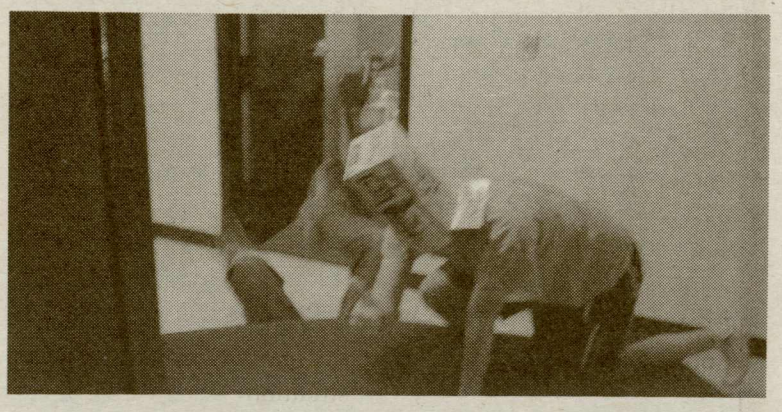
Low pressure and a cold front passed on yesterday bringing some snow flurries. On and off snow showers will continue throughout the next couple of days with no more than an inch of accumulation. A small break tomorrow, but late Sunday the snow will make a return. Temperatures will become cold and winds will be strong throughout the weekend.

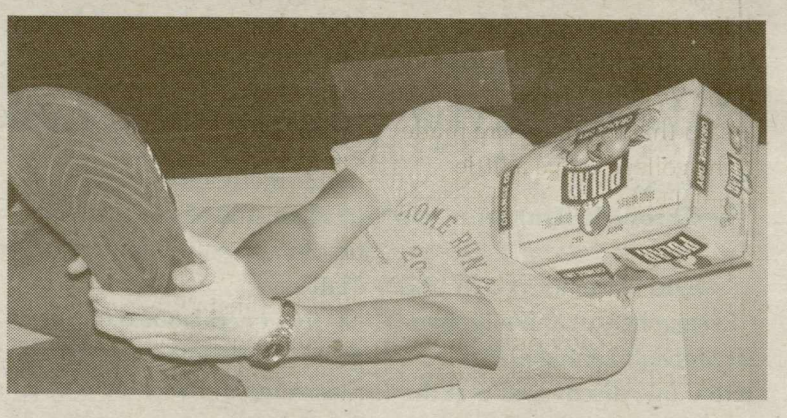
STUMPED!?

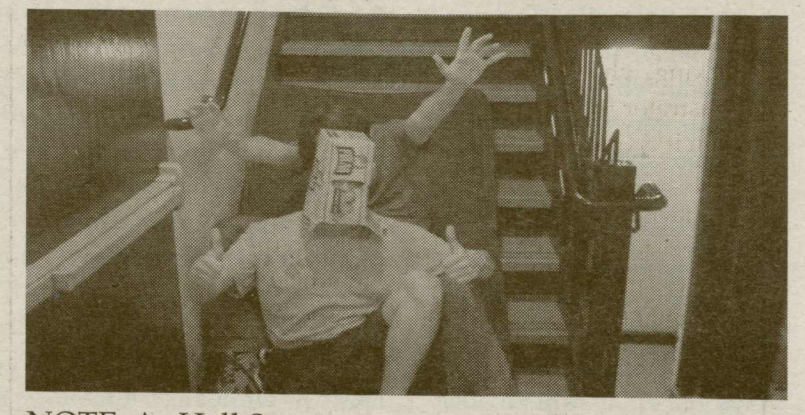
For solutions to this week's puzzles as well as last week's, visit our site on the Web at lyndonstate.edu/critic. The answer to this week's Sudoku is coming. Chauncey was a snowman. He melted. That's the missing mystery answer.

Simply Sudoku...

					1	8		5
1	5		2			6		
						9	1	3
3	7		8	4				2
4		6		7		5		
5	1			3	6		8	
6							7	1
			7	5				







NOTE: As Hall Sports are against campus policy, we do not mean to encourage you to actually particpate in them. All photos were supervised by an RA. Keep my hallway safe!
Additional pictures by Michael Lang.

Puzzles Generated by Overlord of Fun, Also know as long head. The hasty production of this page rivals that of two weeks ago easily. Nothing is more fun than Hall Sports.

High Society looking for more funds

By Catherine Story
Special to The Critic

The High Society, formerly known as the Daggers, has plenty of members but almost no funds.

Christopher Gillece, president of the High Society, recreated the club, which was formerly called Daggers, with a group of former Daggers members at the beginning of the semester. The previous Daggers members let the club dwindle last spring. This new group recreated the constitution, revised it and renamed the club.

The High Society chose their new name because of their love of the mountains. This club is involved with several freestyle sports but their focus has been freestyle snowboarding and skiing.

The High Society uses Facebook to organize the club. With 126 members in their Facebook group, they are one of the most active clubs on campus. The club sends out notifications about club activities through Facebook. They recently sent out a note inquiring about volunteers to set up the next rail jam event.

Gillece, a senior at LSC, also joked that he is part of "one of the most prestigious clubs on campus."

"That's why we're so high." He also said, "We chose that name because it was the right name for good people that have good times."

With the club dispersing, so did their budget. The club presented a film called "Enjoy" in order to raise money. They received $300 from the SGA House of Representatives in order to buy the rights to the movie and a raffle package.

The film was free to view but the club held a raffle. Prizes consisted of Rage Films T-shirts and DVDs, along with Columbia fleeces and vouchers for lift tickets at Jay Peak and Okemo. Raffle tickets were 2 for $1 or an arms length for $5. "The longer your arm, the bigger your chance to win," said Gillece.

Members are hoping to raise enough money throughout the ski season to fund club T-shirts and an end of the season trip. In previous years the Daggers went to Tremblant. The High Society made $110 with their premier of "Enjoy."

This doesn't make up the amount that they got from House in order to fund the event but they will still be able to use this money to fund club-related activities.

Meg Monette, a senior at LSC, is the House representative for the High Society. With a number of clubs facing disciplinary action from the SGA, this club has high hopes of absorbing some of the money that other clubs may lose.

Gillece, a recreation resource and ski resort management major, will be interning at Jay Peak next semester. He hopes to create an inter-college slope-style competition where LSC students can "trick out" against other Vermont State Colleges.

The High Society shares the same goals that the Daggers did, supporting LSC's snowboarding, skiing, skating, BMX and inline aficionados. The High Society does not cater to snowbladers, which they proclaim in the description section of their Facebook group. They cater to "action sports enthusiasts" Gillece said. Their goal is "to bring freestyle action sports to the students of Lyndon," said Julian Arp-Sandel, vice president. The High Society also helps to design and maintain the park at Jay Peak.

The Outing Club also showed a ski movie that was similar to "Enjoy." It showed a lot of big mountain skiing. The difference between the High Society and the Outing Club is that the Outing Club is more involved in "natural sports," said Gillece. They're involved in hiking, camping, climbing and backwoods skiing, unlike the High Society that focuses on freestyle sports, where tricks are the goal.

LSC Ski & Board Report

	Snowfall	Base	Open
Vermont			
Jay Peak	4" in last 48 hrs.	36" (PP/VC)	35 trails, 3 lifts
Burke Mt.	1" in last 48 hrs.	16"	Open 12/8
New Hampshire			
Bretton Woods	2-3" in last 24 hrs.	26-32" (PP)	13 trails, 3 lifts
Attitash	0" in last 48 hrs.	12-24" (PP/LSGR)	14 trails, 4 lifts
Maine			
Sunday River	1-2" in last 24 hrs.	12-36" (LSGR/PP)	35 trails, 6 lifts
Sugarloaf	0" in last 24 hrs.	5-20" (LSGR/FRGR)	13 trails, 4 lifts

Sources: snocountry.com, skiburke.com. For more information about ticket prices and up-to-date snow and weather conditions, please call your mountain of choice or visit its web site.

Key: PP: Packed powder; LSGR: Loose granular; FRGR: Frozen granular; VC: Varying conditions.

Duke researchers illuminates male interest in porn

By Rebecca Wu
The Chronicle (Duke)

DURHAM, N.C. (U-WIRE) - Researchers at Duke University have invented erasable tattoo ink, discovered that the appendix actually has a purpose and are now shedding light onto why men find pornography more rewarding and enjoyable than women do.

Duke neurobiologists are studying how the brain makes decisions in social situations, and their findings suggest that behavioral economics may explain how people evaluate the opportunity to look at members of the opposite sex.

"Our findings are important in several ways," Michael Platt, associate professor of neurobiology, wrote in an e-mail. "These studies serve as a model for investigating what goes wrong in the brains of individuals who suffer from deficits in social behavior such as autism, social anxiety and schizophrenia."

The research also demonstrates the utility of using economic methods to study basic mechanisms of social attention in a scientific setting, Platt said.

"In general, our data suggests that social images can be rewarding in the same way as food, drink or money," he added.

Three common economic principles apply to the opportunity to look at the face of a member of the opposite sex, said neurobiology postdoctoral fellow Benjamin Hayden.

"The first principle is that value is discounted with delays," he wrote in an e-mail. "This means that most people prefer a Snickers bar now to the promise of a Snickers bar tomorrow. So the delayed Snickers bar is worth less than the one now. Just like the opportunity to look at an attractive face is worth less if you have to wait for it."

The second principle is that the opportunity to view the opposite sex is a substitute for money, Hayden said.

"We found that men will pay about half a cent to look at a photo of a very attractive woman right now."

Women, however, tend not to be motivated to view images of unfamiliar men, regardless of how physically attractive they are, Platt said.

The third principle is that the opportunity to view photos of the opposite sex inspires people to work, Hayden said.

"People will exert effort to view photos of attractive people, just as they will exert effort to get money to buy Snickers bars or sports cars," he said.

Hayden added that they are beginning to record responses of people's brains as they see a photo of a member of the opposite sex.

"We are interested in knowing what brain regions are activated during different parts of the task, and how these brain regions help us make decisions about what to look at," he said. "This is important because we think such brain regions are compromised in autistic people. The ultimate goal of this project is to develop treatments for autism."

UVM students condemn FDA blood donation policy

By Danielle Diabakerly
Assistant News Editor
The Cynic (U. of Vermont)

BURLINGTON - The Student Government Association passed a resolution last week condemning the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's lifetime deferral policy against gay men who wish to donate blood.

The policy, enacted in 1983, states that "males who have had sex with males at any time since 1977," are currently deferred as blood donors, according to the FDA Web site.

The SGA resolution states that the policy is "discriminatory" and should be modified "based on high-risk behavior, not sexual orientation."

It urges the Vermont congressional delegation in Washington to take "immediate action" on the issue, and "strongly urges" the FDA to reassess the rule.

Freshman Senator Ana Dru Ellis drafted the resolution that passed last week. "This resolution is important because it is the foundation to a much larger project that could potentially change our country," Ellis said.

The resolution comes in the wake of a heated debate over a bill that would have banned the American Red Cross (ARC) from holding on-campus blood drives, because the organization complies with the FDA lifetime deferral policy.

Ellis co-sponsored the ARC resolution that was defeated last month.

Senior Senator Jesse Bragg, chair of the Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Environmental Ethics, said that the resolution addresses a more manageable piece of what last month's ARC legislation attempted to undertake.

Sophomore Senator John Colin Quinn, who authored the ARC legislation, said he did not support the resolution that passed last week however, because "it was not real action."

Quinn said that the resolution does not address the local issue of gay UVM students being deferred from on-campus blood drives.

Sophomore Senator Josh Mangiagli had similar objection. "My concern is that addressing the FDA, as opposed to the Red Cross, will yield a lesser result in changing the discriminatory policy at hand," he said.

"In shifting our focus to the FDA we are picking an inevitably less responsive organization to focus our energy on," Mangiagli said.

Ellis told the SGA senate last week that the resolution would be "the roots of a larger project." She said she and other SGA senators would prepare petitions, a scientific report, and a letter to send to the FDA, urging them to modify the deferral policy.

THE CRITIC

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Lyndonville, Vt. www.lyndonstate.edu/critic Friday, December 7, 2007 Volume 54, Number 9

Nancy Marie Brown stands next to the statue of Winged Victory in the library with her new book. Pg. 4

Mistaken identity leads to a scary situation

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.
Critic Editor

An LSC student received a scare stemming from a case of mistaken identity.

While parking her car in the Stonehenge parking lot, the unidentified student was approached by an unknown male who thought she was someone he was supposed to meet, George Hacking, director of Public Safety said.

Upon discovering the female student was not in fact who he was supposed to meet, the male student attempted to make light of the situation, Hacking said.

When the female student moved her car after calling her roommates for assistance, the male, realizing he was scaring her more attempted to apologize while she got back on her cell phone after losing sight of the male. It was then he realized how much distress he was causing and decided to leave, Hacking said.

The incident prompted Hacking to send out an mass e-mail explaining what had happened and commending the female student for taking appropriate action.

The male, who was not named by Hacking, read the e-mail and contacted public safety. "I appreciate the fact that he came right out and owned up to it," Hacking said.

The male student did nothing wrong, so no disciplinary action needed to be taken. "He just handled it poorly," Hacking said.

A second e-mail was also sent out explaining that the incident had been resolved.

Hacking's original e-mail included tips on what to do in a situation like the one that occurred on Sunday.

Hacking's Tips.

"If approached in the manner described above, remove yourself from the situation and call Public Safety or someone else for assistance. My recommendation would always be to call Public Safety first.

The number one priority is your safety, so get away as quickly as you can. If you have the opportunity to notice other things like height, weight, facial hair, color of hair, age, clothing, possible vehicle, potential witnesses etc, please do so. This type of information will always be welcome and may possibly assist Law Enforcement in ending strange/odd behavior before it becomes a serious crime.

Do not disable the locks on the Residence Halls. The locked doors are your last defense against undesirables and people looking to do you harm. If you see someone disabling the doors report them to Public Safety.

Suspicious people in the parking lots or hanging around the Residential Halls should be reported to Public Safety.

If you do not feel safe and would like an escort across campus, or to and from the parking lots, call Public Safety and we will assist you as soon as we can."

Photo by Thomas Borck

With the temperature dropping, the water in the pond near the Vail building freezes over, enabling students to migrate across the temporary land bridge.

Johnathan Davis, dean of Student Life, sent out an e-mail warning stduents about the dangers of walking over a frozen pond.

A sign was also posted, but how much the sign's message to stay of the ice is heeded is questionable.

Survivalist challenges students to think outside the box

By Anya Semenoff
Campus Press

U. Colorado, Colo.(U-Wire)- The sounds of shifting metal chairs and friendly chatter enveloped the Community Center of the recently reopened REI off of 28th Street and Canyon Boulevard in Boulder.

Outdoorsman Ford Church was there for one reason — to teach the group how to survive. The projector he used glowed as a reminder to the audience of the modern technology that has flooded society and made basic survival skills obsolete for many people.

Church set up a scenario: A couple of friends decided to go on an eight-mile hike in the Rocky Mountain National Forest — nothing too strenuous. However, as the daylight began to dwindle, the group lost the trail, and before long, all sense of placement. It was the end of October, and there was a definite chill in the air. The hike was originally supposed to be an easy, nonchalant day hike: No one had matches, reserved water or even heavy jackets. As the urgency of the situation became more apparent, the individuals in the group struggled to find potential in their environment and prioritize their needs.

"All right, everyone's getting mildly hypothermic, so let's wrap it up," Church said calling everyone's attention back to the front of the room.

Church asked the clinic's participants to reveal what their individual groups came up with in regard to the proposed scenario. What would they do to survive?

In 2004, Church started the Cottonwood Institute, a non-profit organization dedicated to inspiring "students to change the world through an exciting blend of adventure, wilderness survival and environmental service," according to its Web site.

Originally an idea represented in his Master's thesis, Church morphed it into reality. He said he hoped to involve high school students in the community in areas students say they felt were out of their reach, specifically regarding environmental issues. To do this, he taught them how to survive.

A group of young Boy Scouts in the crowd, already versed in basic survival techniques, outlined their plan. They would first find or construct a shelter, then they would make a fire — possibly using a camera battery to create sparks — seek a water source and lastly search out food.

Another group chose a similar plan: survey the landscape, create a shelter and pile together to share their body heat.

Church said he enjoys hearing what such group interaction will produce, mostly because he expects someone will insist that finding food should be the first priority. In actuality, obtaining food is the last consideration. The human body can survive up to three weeks without a substantial meal.

Church said he teaches survival technique so a person can get out and tell a group of random people what they've learned.

While he's willing to work with nearly every age demographic, Church is more inclined towards high school students. Church said it was at that age when he first felt a pull towards the outdoors.

After eighth grade, he went on a weeklong camping trip. While some of his peers declared afterward that they never wanted to relive such an experience, Church couldn't wait to get out there again.

Beyond his natural pull to the wilderness, Church said he believes high school students can be empowered to make a difference if only given the confidence and means to do so. The goal of the Cottonwood Institute, Church says, is to provide such empowerment.

Kneeling on the carpeted floor of the Community Center, the clinic's 50 or so attendees crowded around Church. With two pieces of wood and a bow similar to that used to shoot an arrow, he quickly drilled a stake violently into a notch in the wood. Within seconds, smoke trailed upward with the scent of a campfire filling the room.

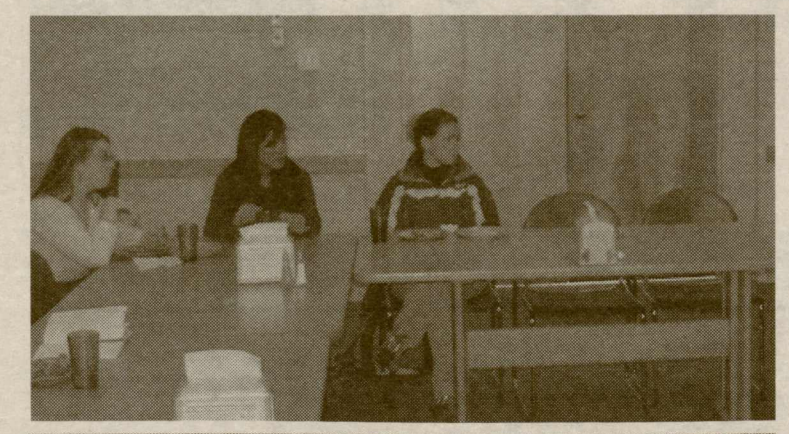
"This really isn't a good inside activity," Church said, stopping before creating a flame.

An REI employee glanced nervously about the room and up at the ceiling, seemingly wondering if the smoke alarm would go off. The crowd was mesmerized by the possibility of lighting the floor on fire.

"I've practiced that for four or five months and still can't do it," said one of the Boy Scouts watching Church's demonstration.

But Church said it takes time.

"You can't read a book or attend one lecture and just know these skills," Church says. "You need to practice."



Photos by Thomas Borck
Non-Traditional students have lunch with President Moore.

President Moore offers promising suggestion to bring non-traditional students together

By Tabitha Fitzgerald
Critic Staff

The non-traditional student lunch with President Moore was not well attended but a few decisions were made.

On Thursday a group lunch was held for non-traditional students. Only six students showed up to the meeting but the meeting was productive. Recently Linda Wacholder, Director of Career Services, sent out an e-mail to the non-traditional students on campus asking for their ideas on events that would benefit or bring together the non-traditional community on campus.

Wacholder said that one of the biggest problems is getting the information about the non-traditional group out. The group typically meets once a month. Wacholder said she sends out e-mail, posts the information on blackboard, and puts up posters on the bulletin boards and around campus. Still students seem ignorant to the groups' existence.

President Carol Moore came up with a promising suggestion to address this problem. The idea is to put a flyer in orientation folders for students that fall into the non-traditional category. Contacts and information about the group meetings could be printed on the flyer allowing new students to know there is help for people in a non-traditional situation.

Another idea that was discussed and will be pushed for is movies. A response to Wacholder's e-mail was that an earlier showing of Wed. night movies in addition to the later showing might benefit non-traditional students. "A lot of the time I can't stay to see the movie 'cause it is at 9:00 and I won't be home till after 11. Sometimes I would like to see the movie but it is too late," Marylou Kozak. An LSC junior, said.

Other topics that were discussed included tutors, social gatherings for non-traditional students and their families, and a sledding event. The lunch lasted around an hour and was held in the Alumni Dining Hall.

Non-traditional students make up about 20 percent of LSC's community Wacholder said. President Moore said that in the ten years she has been here this percentage has been fairly steady. "They are a significant point of our community. It would be nice for us to hear from them," she said. According to Wacholder and students that attended the event, it would be nice for non-traditional students to be able to meet and talk to other people in the same situation.

Decision day shows promise for future freshman class

By Amanda Wozniak
Critic Staff

Twenty-eight students participated in Saturday's decision day. The majority of the students that were in attendance were accepted for the Fall 2008 semester. A few had pending decisions. For the students that were accepted their enrollment at LSC is not binding.

LSC offers three decision days between Dec. and Feb. Each decision day has up to 30 students in attendance. Decision days play an important roll in LSC's enrollment process, the combined 90 students in all three decision days could potentially make up almost one forth of the freshman class. "It is very much worth our time and energy to host such events," Erica Hoyt, an LSC admissions counselor, said.

The days are capped at 30 students due to the time frame admissions counselors are given to make a decision.

Perspective student who attend a decision day are asked to bring a completed application, their official high school transcript, their first quarter senior grades, a letter of recommendation, and their official SAT/ACT scores. The largest benefit for perspective students is that they get a decision the day they apply.

The Admissions Department at LSC looks for students that are in at least the top 50 percent of their class. They also would like the student to have a grade average of around an 80 as well as a score of 970-1000 on their SAT (critical reading and math).

The event runs from 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Decision days consist of perspective students, usually high school seniors, checking in to the college and receiving a welcome from President Moore. They will then eat brunch in the dining hall with The Admissions Department's student ambassadors. The perspective students are then given a guided tour of the campus. The final step to a decision day takes place in the Burke Mountain Room.

While there the students meet individually with Admissions Counselors for the decisions.

The students often comment on how personalized the experience is, Hoyt said. They also comment that they have never been to a school that has such a day.

Decision days, because of the low attendance are much easier to plan for than something as large as an Open House for example. The people directly affected by the students' attendance are President Moore, custodians, dining hall staff, bookstore staff, Donna Wheeler, Student Ambassadors and the admissions counselors.

Hoyt said that "Decision days are exciting events for [high school] seniors because it makes the 'waiting game' much shorter." A decision in a few hours is the ideal situation for a high school senior. Hoyt also said that it's nice to be able to meet with an applicant instead of perspective students only being represented by an application. She hopes that the personalized experience and unique event will help student with their decision to enroll in the next school year.

Loans eliminated from more colleges' aid plans

By Evan Pelz
Brown Daily Herald

BROWN U., R.I.(U-WIRE) - Davidson and Amherst colleges and Wesleyan University have recently taken steps to reduce or eliminate loans from their financial aid policies.

Davidson announced last spring that it could afford to stop issuing need-based loans to students, according to Linda Erickson, a financial aid counselor at Davidson. The college now covers full tuition aid through grants and campus jobs after determining financial need, Erickson said.

Before the policy change, "students were borrowing money in their own names and graduating with a lot of debt," she said, adding that students who want to enter the workforce after graduation often land jobs that do not pay enough to cover their debt.

"Given the nature of our student body, many students hope to work for non-profit organizations following (graduation). These are not high-paying jobs," Erickson said. Absent loans, she explained, students can choose a career without having to take this debt into consideration.

After the changes in financial aid policy were announced last spring, the yield of accepted students who matriculate at Davidson increased from 39.4 percent to 41.6 percent, according to a Nov. 2 article in Inside Higher Education.

Amherst will also eliminate all loans as part of its financial aid packages next academic year, said Joe Case, the college's director of financial aid.

Amherst has been reducing debt for some time, he said. "Since the mid-1980s, the college has packaged reduced loan levels for students from lower-income backgrounds," Case said. "In 1999, this practice was expanded to students from modest-income backgrounds, and loans were eliminated from aid packages for students from lowest-income backgrounds." Case said the new policy might not eliminate loans altogether for some students if they incur additional expenses, such as for a new computer or non-credit music classes.

Wesleyan has announced that it will eliminate loans for students with family incomes of less than $40,000 starting in the fall of 2008, according to David Pesci, the university's director of media relations. "The president saw a need to reduce debt," Pesci said, "and this is what we can presently do with our given endowment." One of the first schools to switch from loans to grant-based financial aid was Princeton University, which eliminated loans from all financial aid packages in 2001.

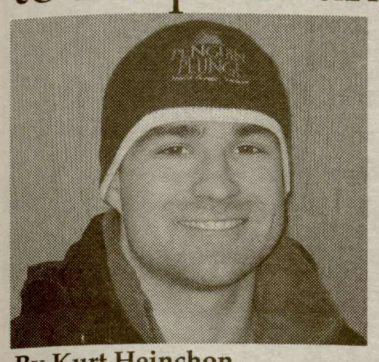
Robin Moscato, director of undergraduate financial aid at Princeton, said, "The university felt that the amount of debt for students was escalating, and we wanted to avoid this." Instead, she said, funds are given to the students through grants, supplied by the university's endowment, and a work-study requirement.

Williams has also announced that it will eliminate loans in its financial aid packages, according the Inside Higher Education article.

Brown has not followed these schools in eliminating loans. But Director of Financial Aid James Tilton emphasized Brown's commitment to lowering student debt, saying the average student need-based loan debt has fallen from $22,000 in 2002 to $16,000 in 2003, following changes in the financial aid policies.

"Student loans are not considered the main source of financial aid," Tilton added, "but instead are used with other components such as parent and student contributions, federal and state grants, (University scholarship) and student employment to make up a student's financial aid award. Brown continues to look for aggressive ways of reducing loan debt for our students."

Lyndon State College joins ENERGY STAR Campaign to Help "Change the world"



By Kurt Heinchon
Enviromental columnist

Lyndon State College has announced that they have joined the national ENERGY STAR Change a Light, Change the World campaign, a growing community of businesses, schools, utilities, non-profit organizations, individuals, and countless others who have made a firm commitment to help change the world, one light , one energy-saving step , at a time.

As part of this national initiative, LSC plans to encourage all Residence Hall students, about 1,300 individuals, to pledge to replace at least one standard bulb or fixture in their room or office with one that has earned the government's ENERGY STAR label, as an important step to save energy and join the fight against global climate change. LSC will kick off its effort at the start of the Spring semester of 2008. 1,300 pledges could save nearly 312,000 kWh and prevent 478,920 pounds of greenhouse gas emissions. That is equivalent to saving 60 acres of forest from air pollution.

"Like an increasing number of organizations, we want to do our part to reduce our country's greenhouse gas emissions and play a role in fighting climate change," said an LSC representative. "We are proud to spread the word about the difference individuals in our campus can make by acting together to take energy-saving steps at home."

LSC will encourage the campus to make a simple, yet meaningful commitment by taking the online ENERGY STAR Change a Light Pledge.

Lighting accounts for about 20 percent of the typical home's electricity use. Replacing standard lights typically left on longest at home with energy-efficient options that use 75 percent less energy is a significant way to cut energy costs while also preventing greenhouse gas emissions from power plants.

"Becoming part of the solution to global climate change takes less time and effort than you might think. In fact, it can start by taking energy-saving steps at home as simple as changing a light," said Wendy Reed of the Environmental Protection Agency. "Organizations like Lyndon State College are an important part of the ENERGY STAR Change a Light community who have committed their time to help spread the word about the need to use energy more efficiently on campus. We are proud to work with them and with the Americans in every part of the country who have already pledged to change more than one million lights collectively."

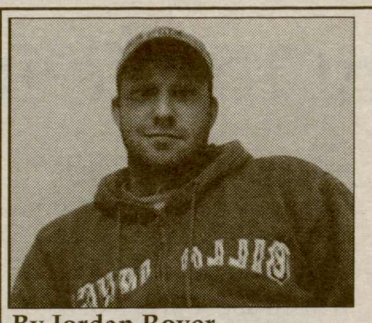
The ENERGY STAR Change a Light, Change the World campaign is a national call-to-action sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Energy and Department of Housing and Urban Development to encourage Americans to use energy efficiently at home and to start by switching to lighting options that have earned the government's ENERGY STAR label for energy efficiency. If every American home replaced just one light with an ENERGY STAR, every year we would save enough energy to light more than 3 million homes, more than $600 million in energy costs, and prevent greenhouse gases equivalent to the emissions of more than 800,000 cars.

About ENERGY STAR ENERGY STAR was introduced by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 1992 as a voluntary, market-based partnership to reduce air pollution through increased energy efficiency.

Today, with assistance from the U.S. Department of Energy, the ENERGY STAR program offers businesses and consumers energy-efficient solutions to save energy and money, and help fight global climate change.

More than 8,000 organizations have become ENERGY STAR partners and are committed to improving the energy efficiency of products, homes and businesses. For more information about ENERGY STAR, visit www.energystar.gov or call toll-free 1-888-STAR-YES (1-888-782-7937).

Holy Sheet



By Jordan Royer,
Sex columnist

With the holidays getting closer, parties are in full force. Whether it is a college party with excessive amounts of booze or a family and friends party, well, once again with excessive amounts of booze, there is always that other thing that just may come up at parties- sex

Round up a bunch of crazy college kids, give them alcohol and put them in the holiday spirit and you have a definite recipe for sex. So you are at a party, getting your drink on, and that person you been crushing is across the room. Both of you have a buzz so things go way smoother than normal. You get to talking and flirting and shazaam, you decide to hook up. But, you are at a party with a bunch of other people around and you don't want to make a scene. What can you do?

Well there are a lot of times when you may encounter this situation. You are somewhere you need to be discreet but you just can't wait, you need to hook up. Well, there are things that can be done so you don't end up frustrated. Some places are better than others to do the dirty. Obviously if you are going to be discreet you won't have sex in the midst of all the other party goers. So where can you go to have a few quick minutes of privacy? Well, the bathroom is a good spot. You should have plenty of room and plenty of privacy and the bathroom offers a number of sound buffers if you expect it to get a little noisy. Between the flushing of the toilet and the running of the sink, you have plenty of choices to cover up the moans, slappin, and smacking that may accompany your sexual escapade. Another spot you can sneak away to is a large bedroom closet or you can head outside. Right now, with all the snow on the ground, an outside sex session probably isn't the best idea, but you can always jump into your car and get things done.

In order to be discreet, you may need to be quick with things. With quickness you must realize that other parts of your performance may suffer. Someone may not have the time to orgasm or there may not be time to try new things. If you want to have sex during a party realize that the adventure should be quick and exciting, not a real serious endeavor. Sneaking away from a party to get things done isn't the time to try new things. Stick to tricks you are familiar with so you can do the deed and get back to the party, save experiments for other times.

The holiday season and the parties that accompany it are a great time, but sneaking away for a quick sexual satisfier makes any party just that much better. Next time you are in a large group of people and that urge comes over you, don't bury it down inside of you, make it happen. Grab your partner and sneak away for a little bit of added excitement, but for the sake of everyone else at the party, be discreet.

Position of the Week-
The Sniper

LSC Rotaract Club hopes for successful food drive

Lyndon State College's new Rotaract Club is sponsoring another holiday food drive for December, thanks to the success of its Thanksgiving food drive benefiting the Lyndon Area Food Shelf.

"The need for food donations is especially great at this time of year," club president Bonnie Paris said. Rotaract is a service organization for young men and women, sponsored by Rotary International.

Collection boxes will be at the Alexander Twilight Theatre lobby, the library, Rita Bole, Harvey Academic Center lobby, the Student Center, and Student Services lobby, and off-campus at The White Market, The Lyndon Freighthouse, and other locations.

The Thanksgiving drive – co-sponsored by the LSC Fun/Spirit Committee – brought in 200 pounds of food for the food shelf as well as a $25 donation.

"The Rotaract Club would like to thank all those who made this food drive possible and for all of the generous donations," Paris said. "Rotaractors repeatedly removed bags of food from several collection boxes, due to overflow."

Lyndon State is the only college in Vermont with a chapter of the Rotaract Club.

A meeting to welcome new members is scheduled at 12:30 p.m. on Dec. 6 in Stevens Dining Hall.

Photo attached: Rotaract members Bonnie Paris, left, and Sarah Winans deliver 200 pounds of food to Lyndon Area Food Shelf. The food was collected in a Thanksgiving food drive sponsored by the club.

Letter Policy

The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must include the author's phone number or contact information. The Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:

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Viking sagas brought to life in "The Far Traveler"

By Thomas Borck
Critic Staff

"Gudrid the Far Traveler" written by Nancy Marie Brown tells the tale of Gudrid, a Viking woman who crossed the Atlantic ocean eight times, and Brown's quest to uncover the truth of her past. Brown visited the Lyndon State campus to give a presentation on her book and explain her trip to Iceland.

Gudrid's story originates from two of the 40 old Icelandic sagas. Brown commented, "They were not the best of the sagas." But when she learned that there might be validity to them and an actual Gudrid she went off in search of it.

Brown was working at Pennsylvania State University when she heard about an archeology expedition that uncovered what she thought could be Gudrid's house. In hopes to make myth into history Brown pushed to be on the dig.

Brown was always interested in Icelandic lore and praises J. R. R. Tolkien as one of her influences. Tolkien was one of a group of people who help support the translation of Norse and the Icelandic sagas.

Brown traveled to Iceland and was able to recount Gudrid's journeys in the northern Atlantic. As part of her presentation she brought slides. Showing the vast treeless landscape that was Iceland and Greenland she recounted some of the ongoing problems with erosion.

The passages that she read from her book reflected the hardships of living as a Viking and the dangers of sea voyage. She mentions that Gudrid was widowed soon after she started traveling and how this widow became known as the far traveler. After visiting what now is Canada several times Gudrid decided to visit Rome and returned home from her successful journey to her son who had a church built for her. One of her grandson's was a bishop who Brown mentions might have been written about in one of the other sagas.

Brown talked about the dangers of sailing, relating stories of people who created replicas of the Viking boats and how most of them were unsuccessful in their voyages. Most encountered troubled waters and were tossed about at sea making navigation very difficult.

When asked about writing this book Brown said, "It was very time consuming." The book totals 320 pages of which Brown said about 22,000 words were cut before it went to press. "Its always hard," she said regarding having to cut parts of her book out, "But it was as if the editor I had could read my mind, she was great." Looking into the future Brown said her next book might follow the history of an 11th century Pope.

Photo by Thomas Borck

Nancy Marie Brown stands with her book "Gudrid the Far Traveler" in the Samuel Read Hall library. The books tells the story of a Viking woman who crossed the Atlantic ocean eight times in her travels.

Gensburg fears phone tapped and computer hacked while representing Guantanamo detainee

By Norman Johnson
Special to The Critic

St. Johnsbury attorney Robert Gensburg has recently been on national news alleging his phone has been tapped and his computer hacked. Gensburg also represents a detainee at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and has been a sharp critic of the legal process there.

Gensburg gave a talk "The Rule of Law is Dead" Nov. 12 at the North Congregational Church in St. Johnsbury, a series of lectures sponsored by the North Country Coalition of Justice and Peace.

The topic was what Gensburg called the lack of Habeas Corpus in the Guantanamo proceedings. Habeas Corpus, or "I have the Body" in Latin, is ancient common law originating in England giving an accused the fundamental right to challenge his arrest and detention by the government, a right U.S. citizens take for granted.

"I have to say, this is the first Habeas Corpus case I've ever been involved with in 40 years," Gensburg said.

Gensburg, a rural practicing attorney in the Northeast Kingdom for 40 years, represents a 36 year old man from a primitive village in Afghanistan. Abu Zahir studied Arabic in high school so he could read the original Arabic text of the Koran. When Zahir graduated he was fluent in his native language Pashtu, Arabic, and Dari, a dialect of Persian. When the Taliban came to power they enlisted Zahir to translate for a conference with the Northern Coalition in northern Afghanistan.

"And that's the principle reason he finds himself in Guantanamo," Gensburg said.

The government argued that Guantanamo is not a U.S. territory and thus not bound to U.S. Law. This assumption was clarified in Rasul vs. Bush in June of 2004 by the U.S. Supreme Court finding Guantanamo very much a part of the U.S. and subject to her law. The latest lease, signed in the 1930s, is open-ended.

Justice is still absent in Guantanamo, Gensburg said.

"You have a Congress that for whatever reason is unwilling or unable to stop the Administration from doing what it's doing, destroying the idea of the rule of law at Guantanamo, and I always thought that when times got tough, the Judicial branch of the government would step in and prevent it from continuing. It isn't," Gensburg said.

Gensburg said none of the detainees have yet seen the charges against them, they are not permitted lawyers, they are not permitted to view classified evidence against them, and it is the duty of the defendant to rebut the charges to the satisfaction of the Tribunal.

"If you were a prisoner, you don't speak English and you haven't been out of this prison for a year or more, how in the world under those circumstances can anybody reasonably be expected to defend themselves?" Gensburg said.

"These people are abused, sexually humiliated," Gensburg said. "My client has been in solitary confinement for 18 months now. Waterboarding really does happen. They are stripped naked, and put in a room where the temperature of the room is about 40 degrees for 24 or 30 hours.

"Everything that we're told, that you read in the newspapers, what you see on television coming from the administration about what is taking place in Guantanamo [is] not to be believed," Gensburg said.

That is not all that worries Gensburg.

"To be very honest with you," Gensburg said, "there is a much larger issue and that is the ability of the executive branch of this government to ignore the law with the complicity and when necessary with the help of the Congress, and the reluctance if not refusal at least up until now of the Judicial branch of the government to step in to correct this problem."

After the talk the question of the wire taps came up.

Gensburg said he began having phone problems at home in July. One day Gensburg's wife, Leslie, picked up their home phone and faintly heard her husband talking on his office phone in St. Johnsbury. He had not called her, but a client instead. Later when technicians found crossed wires in the system, Gensburg consulted a professional who told him he was probably being tapped.

"I wasn't in my car, or using my cell phone," Gensburg said. "I was using the land line in my office. My phone was tapped. How else could you hear a conversation on my phone in East Burke that I'm having on my phone in St. Johnsbury?"

Gensburg was also having problems with his computer. He returned from a Guantanamo related trip to Boston Aug. 16 to find the Guantanamo file missing from his computer.

"You can imagine the computer folder on this Guantanamo case is huge, thousands of hours of work," Gensburg said. "I panicked."

With some help, Gensburg located the missing file in a location in his computer he didn't know existed. The computer continued acting strangely so he took it to a computer forensic specialist.

Gensburg said the specialist found a bug in the machine that could operate the computer remotely and found evidence of massive downloading. At that point Gensburg knew that most certainly all of his confidential business had been compromised.

Gensburg said he probably has no legal remedy because the government can simply deny the allegations.

An audience member asked him if the sloppiness of the alleged phone tapping might actually be someone trying to scare him.

"If they were going to do something like that," Gensburg said, "I can't imagine why they would pick me. There are some real heavy-hitters out there; they wouldn't pick some small town lawyer in St. Johnsbury."

College students are takeout happy

By Gillian Moore
Special to the Critic

Michelle Vivian loves chicken and broccoli Alfredo from Hoagies.

"I probably spend $40 a week there." Vivian said. "It's my favorite restaurant in Lyndonville."

Takeout food can take a good amount of students' money, but according to some, it's worth it.

Hoagies is one of the most popular restaurants in the area when it comes to serving college kids.

"I love Hoagies," senior Steven Glazier said, "cause they have poutine." Glazier said he usually spends about $20 per week ordering out, especially for those gravy and cheese covered french fries.

"I probably spend $30 a week on chinese and pizza," Derek Fortier, an LSC senior, said. "The buffet is my favorite. I love the whole all you can eat part."

"I spend way too much money on food." junior Jenna Tuccillo said. "I would say around $30 a week. Add on an extra $20 for tonight since it's my friend's birthday."

She said she orders takeout because she just gets lazy. "Sometimes I don't feel like cooking or what I cook doesn't come out right. And sometimes I get those cravings that I just can't kick until I get that food."

To others, takeout is not as important. "I rarely get takeout," senior Tyler Southard said. "Every now and then I pick up soup and a sandwich at the snack bar, but that's about it."

However, he did admit to indulging every once and awhile. "When I'm feeling really classy, I get a double cheeseburger at McDonalds."

The importance of keeping your computer clean over the break

By Thomas Borck
Critic Staff

The Information Technology department services approximately 150 computers every semester.

Anthony Santacaterina, Senior Desktop Support for IT, suggests cleaning your computer at least every two weeks to keep your computer from having to make the trip down to their office.

Some programs to accomplish this are Ad-Aware, Spybot, CleanUp, and CCleaner (Crap Cleaner).

All of these programs can be downloaded for free from their respective websites and are endorsed by the Lyndon State College IT department.

If you don't have virus protection the college offers free download and usage of McAfee VirusScan here www.Lyndonstate.edu/infotech.

Windows should always be kept up to date. Viruses can spread through the network much easier if you computer isn't updated.

Don't ignore those updates over break otherwise you may get back on campus and become infected from someone else.

Some programs you will want to stay away from are the peer-to-peer networks like Limewire and Kazaa because of the large content of malicious software that can be downloaded unknowingly. Some malicious software has been known to do permanent damage to computer hardware, which the IT department will not be able to help you with. "We don't do hardware," Santacaterina said.

Frequent spyware scans and virus scans over break should allow for a more enjoyable spring semester and less network problems on campus.

Ad-Aware can be found at: www.lavasoftusa.com

Spybot can be found at: www.safer-networking.org

CleanUp can be found at: www.stevengould.org

Ccleaner can be found at: www.ccleaner.com

McAfee requires your student login to confirm that you are able to receive the software for free and can be found at: www.lyndonstate.edu/infotech

Public safety out to stop vandalism

By Ben Holbrook
Special to the Critic

Multiple car vandalisms have forced Public Safety to step up their patrols of the parking lots.

In an effort to prevent cars from being vandalized, Public Safety has increased the number of patrols in the Rita Bole, Wheelock, and Stonehenge parking lots, said George Hacking, director of Public Safety. Stonehenge however, has experienced the most problems in regards to the vandalism, Hacking said.

The vandalisms were originally thought to be happening late at night and early in the morning however, one act of vandalism was done in the early evening so it is more difficult to time the patrols, Hacking said. "The criminal is looking for an opportunity to do it when we're not there," Hacking said.

Last year there were more cases of theft, but this year there is more of an issue of unlawful mischief, Hacking said. "People have to be aware of what's going on around them," said Hacking.

If people notice strange people on campus who look suspicious then they should call Public Safety, who would then check things out, said Hacking. Personal possessions should be removed from the vehicles or moved out of sight because, "they won't go after what they can't see," Hacking said.

In the past year, there was an outcry for the use of cameras but after the problems stopped then so did the desire to have cameras. "Cameras would be a great deterrent," Hacking said, but there needs to be money set aside specifically to install them.

The vandalisms are "not funny," Hacking said.

Students and their technology are a common sight on campuses

By Joanne Lui
The Collegian

California State U.-Calif.(U-Wire)- Text messaging as fast as their thumbs can fly on the way to class.

Checking MySpace, reading the latest celebrity gossip or playing a computer game on their laptops during a lecture. Even using their cell phones while skateboarding. The students of today seemingly can't live without their electronic gadgets.

Tamyra Pierce, Ph.D., an associate professor in Fresno State's mass communication and journalism department who researches media effects on young people, noticed these trends.

Pierce decided to conduct a research study on technology addiction in high school and college, specifically focusing on use of text messaging and social networking sites, such as MySpace and Facebook.

The results - perhaps not entirely surprising - indicated that students are clearly prone to becoming technology junkies.

Half of the 250 randomly selected college students surveyed said they spent one to four hours a day text messaging and talking on their cell phones. Pierce said she heard the story of one student who sent up to 700 text messages per week. Additionally, 39 percent of the students said they also spent that much time on social networking sites.

However, these statistics are not the only indicators for technology addiction.

"When I look at addiction, there's other criteria that I have to look at as well as just amount of time that they spend," Pierce said.

The criteria for addiction included increased amount of time spent using the technology, preoccupation of thoughts with using the technology, withdrawal-type behaviors when the technology is unavailable and a euphoria feeling after use, and the main criteria - conflict that occurs as a result of use.

The study found that 50 percent of students had spent increased time with the technology since they first got it, 52 percent were preoccupied with the next time they could text message, 48 percent experienced euphoria after extended technology use and 46 percent reported irritability when unable to use their cell phones.

But Pierce said that more important was if conflict occurred as a result of technology use. That conflict could include problems with grades, family, paying attention in class and excessive phone bills.

The study found that 23 percent of the college students surveyed reported conflict as a result of technology use.

"You need to be aware of the amount of time and what is going on with your use of technology," Pierce said.

Pierce thinks students should also be aware of the technology habits of those around them.

"If it seems like a friend of yours is using this technology way too much and avoiding or letting other responsibilities slip as a result of their use, it's just like any other addiction," Pierce said "You want to be there and intervene. First is admitting that you have a problem."

Pierce sees the problem of cell phone use in her classroom every day. She has the additional complication of teaching in a computer lab with Internet access.

"All the time I have to tell [students] to get off their MySpace and then to put away their phones because they're texting," Pierce said. "I know that they're not paying attention ... If they're not paying attention they can't do well."

Michael Becker, Ph.D., a political science professor on campus, said that he notices students using their cell phones all the time outside of class, but doesn't pay attention to cell phone use while he's lecturing. He also freely allows laptop use in his classroom.

"If they're here to play computer games and talk to their friends, that's their problem," Becker said.

For his part, Becker does not even carry a cell phone, calling them a burden and a distraction.

Pierce said she stays away from text messaging.

"I don't use text message at all. I hate it," she said. "I'd rather just talk to someone."

Junior social work major Miriam Ceballos sees the advantages of being able to text message in class. She thinks it can be useful to assist friends when she can't answer her phone.

"It's like another alternative to calling," Ceballos, 20, said. "I wouldn't be able to get out of class."

Ceballos, who said she sends text messages up to 20 times per day, said text messaging can also keep her awake during lectures. She admitted, however, that it can become a distraction.

"I'm concentrating on them texting me and texting back, and not really concentrating on the lecture," she said.

Wood pellets make better fossil fuel option than wind farms

By Norman Johnson
Special to the Critic

The fossil fuel alternative of wood pellet burning makes more sense than wind farms. Sutton resident, Paul Brouha, thinks hiring local people to use existing local resources to heat local businesses and homes makes more sense than a proposed wind farm that employs three people to produce questionably reliable power for a questionable consumer base.

"I think biomass based plants make a lot of sense," Brouha said. "They continue what our economy was built for."

Biomass is a buzzword of the forest industry for wood material. With heating oil around $3 per gallon many commercial and government buildings have converted from fossil to biomass fuel, like wood chips, to heat buildings and power machinery.

"Folks up here in Vermont a long time ago learned what a biomass converter was," Brouha said. "The wood stove. And fuel pellets are a clean, high value fuel costing less than half the price of oil and gas."

A fuel pellet is a small slug of processed wood the diameter of a pencil made by grinding down green low value timber (of otherwise little or no commercial value), then extruding it under high pressure into a dry efficient fuel. The pellets look like small feed pellets sold at a feed store.

Pellets can be sold in bags or stored in silos. The easily handled fuel can be used in home pellet stoves or large commercial boilers. Because it can be easily augured from a hopper into the firebox, it makes the difficult, messy job of handling logs or cordwood obsolete.

Brouha was Associate Deputy Chief for the U.S. Forest Service for the Clinton administration. The Bush administration saw him as a Democrat and reassigned him, ironically, as Director of Strategic Planning. This allowed him to make even larger agency decisions. He retired this year.

Brouha said his agency job took him to locations around the country where he witnessed examples of economic development funded forestry projects under way, making him an ideal mentor for a project like this.

Wind power, ethanol, and other sources of energy have been offered as alternatives to fossil fuels. Brouha said in 2002 UPC Wind Partners LLC, of Newton, MA began lobbying residents to build a wind generating facility in the Northeast Kingdom. The project was met with opposition by citizens who questioned plans to construct a series of towers, some up to 420 feet tall with 150 foot rotor blades.

"The more we looked at it, the more distressed we got," Brouha said. "Because it wasn't just going to be a blight on the landscape, it was going to create noise issues, it was going to destroy our peaceful night skies, it was going to devalue our property and a lot of the properties in this end of town. We're for renewable energy, we're environmentalists, but this thing doesn't make sense on an environmental level, a social level, or an economic level. It fails all three criteria absolutely."

Wind generated sources of power can be inconsistent; when the generators are below peak generating levels, the power must come from usual sources on the grid.

"If you want to find a spot where you have constant wind in Vermont," Brouha said, "you'd want to be along the backbone of the Green Mountains; Mt. Mansfield, Camel's Hump and other well known places—like along the shore of Lake Champlain. Not likely."

Another criticism of the wind project, is what it contributes to the local economy. Brouha said the wind farm would employ three low paid residents, while a pellet fuel facility could potentially employ up to 100 family wage scale individuals from the community. Where the wind generated power would be ultimately sold remains in question.

A closed sawmill in nearby West Burke, Brouha said, is a perfect location for a processing facility since it is already in the Sutton Town plan, it has large buildings, road access and rail frontage.

"We're engaged in getting together a community development grant to see if it is possible," Brouha said. "If it is, I think I can come up with a pretty good feasibility study that will interest investors. My intent is to serve our community and create something that is actually sustainable based on a natural resource."

Brouha said local foresters from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources estimate we only use 3 percent of the low value wood in our local forests and have the sustainable capacity to use up to 20 percent. A side benefit of cleaning up the woods is that it promotes healthier stands of trees which would also benefit the highly profitable local hardwood industry.

Of the wind tower project, Brouha said, "It was all because a poorly thought out sweep of subsidies provided by the Federal government that this thing made economic sense at all,"

Brouha said there is corn land in the Dakotas and Minnesota now selling for $2800 per acre, all because of federal ethanol subsidies.

"There's no way on God's green earth that the land can return that value," Brouha said.

Environmentalist shares views and fears

By Heather Perkins
Critic Staff

Bill McKibben, world-renowned environmentalist and writer, spoke recently at St. Johnsbury Academy. He discussed his new book and some of the problems that the economy is beginning to face.

"We don't get this right soon, or we don't get it right at all," McKibben said.

The problems McKibben sees America facing are global warming and climate change. In twenty years people have realized that it is a problem but still nothing is being done. McKibben said that we have dramatically underestimated how the Earth's balance can shift; the world temperature has only risen 1 degree, and already worldwide we are seeing extreme changes.

"It's an important message that people need to hear," David Johnson, LSC Professor of Philosophy, said.

The second problem that McKibben spoke about was whether or not people are happy. In 1956 he says that the majority could answer yes, and since then the number has steadily decreased. People started spending money on suburbanizing and building houses further apart from one another. "Cheap fossil fuels got us rich, and got us further from our neighbors."

"While what he had to say was quite sobering, at the same time his enthusiasm and his conviction that all of us can make a difference gave me hope that we can solve the problems," Alan Boye, Professor of English, said after McKibben finished.

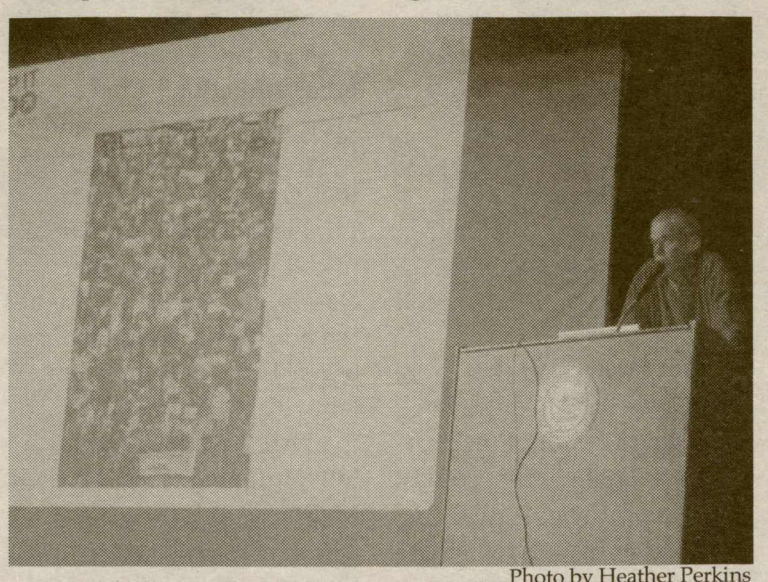


Photo by Heather Perkins
McKibben shows various photos from stepitup2007.org

McKibben originally started out as a journalist. "I saw this as the biggest story of our time, and it later grew to being horrific." He's written many books, his recent being *Deep Economy: The Wealth of Communities and the Durable Future*, which questions what the world will look like, as well how Americans think "growth is good, more is better."

Back in January 2007 he formed a website called stepitup2007.org that is all about spreading movements worldwide concerning global warming. In the past year he and a friend started a pilgrimage from Robert Frost's cabin, walking five days up to Lake Champlain. What started out as just the two, ended with a thousand people. They met with the senators and asked them to sign a pledge to cut carbon by 80 percent by 2050, and each signed it.

McKibben spoke at Fuller Hall to a full room. He believes that the best we can do now is to organize politically, and to keep pushing movements across.

Lyndon State College's own Wikipedia page

By Andrew Koch
Critic Staff

These days, you can find just about anything on the popular online encyclopedia Wikipedia. This includes information about Lyndon State College.

LSC Webmaster Takura Shimamura said that he last updated the page on Nov. 27. Before he edited it the page hadn't been updated in about five years.

Shimamura also says that the college uses Wikipedia to promote itself.

"Part of it is marketing," Shimamura said, although there's no advertising involved. "Advertising goes against Wikipedia's philosophy."

According to Wikipedia's information page, the site was created in 2001 and now has over two million articles written in English and approximately nine million articles overall. Articles are written in more than 250 languages.

Shimamura said that in the last update before he edited the page, there was no mention of the Rita Bole Complex, but there was a mention of ghosts in the Wheelock residence hall. Shimamura says that all the information about Lyndon on Wikipedia is now accurate and up to date.

"The information is really accurate," Shimamura said, although he does admit that some people are getting wrong information from the site. This may be because simply anyone can edit the information in each section and on each page. For this reason, a number of teachers discourage students from using Wikipedia as a source for research papers. Shimamura disagrees with that train of thought, however, saying that most people who do use Wikipedia are getting accurate and correct information.

"I trust Wikipedia for information more than books," he said.

Wikipedia also has a page that says what it isn't. According to this page Wikipedia isn't a dictionary, a soapbox for propaganda and advocacy, a storage place for links or images, nor is it a blog or social networking site. It is simply "a free content encyclopedia…written by volunteers from all around the world."

It's On My Mind (all this and sex, of course)

D	H	O	H	Z	K	O	H	F	L	L	E	D	N	E	C	L	X	B	T	Q	L	W	H	A
P	H	U	Z	B	M	E	X	A	M	S	E	H	Y	Q	V	E	L	G	G	C	A	V	S	Q
E	S	S	T	Y	U	M	B	Q	M	Q	G	R	G	D	Q	S	I	G	O	M	U	S	N	U
L	O	C	H	E	X	M	J	H	A	M	L	E	T	K	T	A	Z	P	K	K	C	Y	O	W
L	B	A	B	U	U	V	N	X	T	L	N	W	J	T	Y	F	O	O	S	G	D	A	W	T
H	N	M	Q	B	I	S	X	V	Y	V	F	K	C	G	V	Q	V	N	Y	F	W	D	P	H
T	Q	E	N	V	Y	J	F	W	L	S	X	Q	M	U	D	I	J	Q	K	J	U	I	N	N
G	D	O	J	U	W	J	L	F	A	V	R	U	P	S	Q	F	N	D	L	V	T	L	D	N
J	Q	Y	Z	I	S	Q	K	V	P	F	S	E	F	O	M	K	U	D	K	D	X	O	N	C
T	Q	Z	X	E	C	N	H	E	C	I	Z	D	P	B	E	N	S	X	D	E	F	H	O	W
G	E	N	I	T	N	K	E	S	C	W	P	I	Q	A	W	I	S	Q	Q	V	N	G	I	X
U	T	S	Z	S	N	L	K	U	R	F	T	X	J	B	P	S	E	D	M	J	X	W	T	U
N	E	J	C	U	S	T	J	U	B	H	A	B	J	S	N	K	R	M	Z	G	C	M	A	L
R	M	Q	O	R	G	V	O	X	P	Y	M	E	R	U	C	E	T	V	G	U	Q	K	C	M
I	O	T	L	N	U	K	K	A	R	A	Z	F	G	P	F	I	S	G	J	B	I	Y	A	Q
J	H	E	Y	B	T	B	F	R	H	L	J	Y	P	W	K	N	U	B	O	K	X	S	V	A
G	W	C	I	D	E	V	S	H	J	V	Z	I	P	Z	W	O	H	S	E	D	I	L	S	W

These things came to me when I sat down to make this word find:
HOME EXAMS SNOW HOLIDAYS HAMLET STRESS
SCRUBS VACATION SLIDESHOW SLEEP PAPERS MUSIC

Medieval-esque SUDOKU

2	6		8	5				9
				2			5	
						9		
		8	9		3			
	5	6					2	1
			5	3		7	9	
5			7					4
8		9				1		

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (3/21-4/19) Surprise, surprise! People are trying to study and get their work done over the next week or so. My advice? STFU!

TAURUS (4/20-5/20) You'll find that turning in half-assed, off-topic essays still get you a higher grade than no essay at all. Translation: Write that personal essay about Rocco's Modern Life.

GEMINI (5/21-6/21) Your nightlight is the morning sun. You live the life of a bat. You are a bat that can party. A bat that keeps me up to all hours, jerk.

CANCER (6/22-7/22) You are in great need of a body massage. If a buddy isn't willing to do it for you, buy one of those vibrating tripod things.

LEO (7/23-8/22) You are a computer. Not in the way that your mind works quickly, nor are particularly precise. Instead you just find yourself drooling and staring at nothing whenever someone sends a lscstuall.

VIRGO (8/23-9/22) If you find yourself lost in life's carnival this week, just look about. You'll find a strange man who speaks only in "mimimi" to help you out. You'll be in good shape.

LIBRA (9/23-10/23) Be sure to use extra care when traversing icy and snow-covered paths this next week. The holiday season is no fun with a broken coccyx.

SCORPIO (10/24-11/21) A good support group is the key to making it through the week. Don't abandon your friends, or they will only leave you the crust from your pumpkin pie.

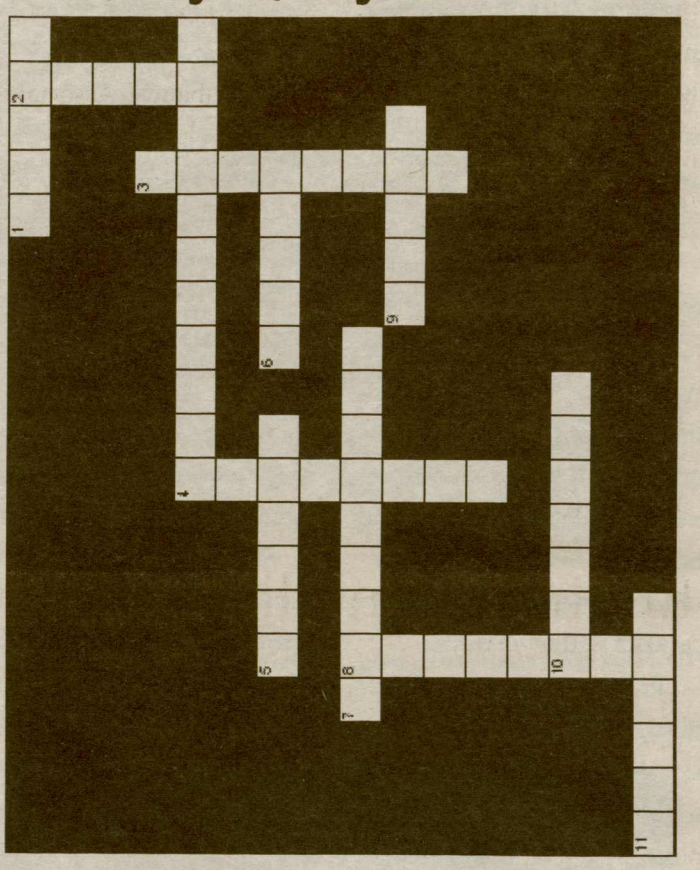
SAGITTARIUS (11/22-12/21) News flash! Sugar is not part of the acceptable food groups! Turns out you haven't just discovered the "freshmen 15," but also the "sophomore 30," "junior 50," and so on. Enjoy your rotten teeth.

CAPRICORN (12/22-1/19) Make yourself a delicious porkchop sandwich to aid in your studying. Just be careful not to set your curtains on fire, because if you do a strange man will run into your house and scream at you to get out.

AQUARIUS (1/20-2/18) Once all the exam stress has gone away, teach yourself a new skill. Being able to armpit fart Beethoven's ninth symphony is a sure way to get laid.

PISCES (2/19-3/20) Thinking is dangerous. Just ask the government. They are very aware of this danger. They have taken every precaution against thinking. Maybe you should follow suit?

Yummy Yummy Crossword



Just in time for final exams, you can chow down on these delicious words. You'll find the whole college diet above!

ACROSS

1. Side order that also functions as a favorite quick meal.
4. Little edible holiday people are made of this.
5. Eat my _____, man!
6. Old soda that people typically love or hate.
7. Popular McDonald's item, but you can cook a good one yourself.
9. College food staple.
10. Somehow aids in the process of watching movies.
11. Common main course of the holiday season.

DOWN

2. Circular multi-topping food.
3. Ph. D soft drink.
4. Popular sport drink, even if you aren't active.
8. The most "American" food.

WEATHER FORECAST

STUDENT METEOROLOGIST: Bryan Shaw

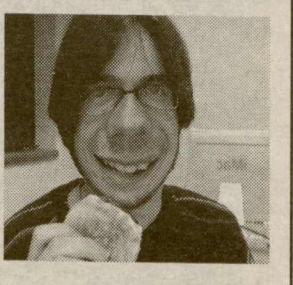
We've been seeing a break in the snow Thursday, continuing into today as high pressure builds in and clears things out a bit. With high pressure also comes colder temperatures. The snow makes a return late today into tomorrow and accumulations could be up to an inch for the weekend.

"I heard somebody say, 'Where's (Nelson) Mandela?' Well, Mandela's dead. Because Saddam Hussein killed all the Mandelas." --George W. Bush (By the way, Nelson Mandela isn't dead in the least bit).

STUMPED!?

For solutions to this week's puzzles as well as last week's, visit our site on the Web at lyndonstate.edu/critic. THE GAME. Additional problems can be obtained from your local internet source. Please Recycle.

Puzzles Generated by Overlord of Fun, Eric Downing, whom enjoys food greatly. You'll notice that this is basically the first week that my article had nothing to do with the puzzles.



Locker room controversy returns to Iowa

By Carla Keppler
The Daily Iowan

IOWA U., IOWA (U-WIRE)- A former UI associate professor of law plans to file a Title IX complaint against the university over the pink visitors' locker room in Kinnick Stadium.

Jill Gaulding, who spoke out against the pink locker room in 2005, said she plans to file the complaint because of the inappropriateness of the university's action in rebuilding the pink locker room during stadium renovations. Some have complained that the pink color is derogatory toward women, intending to make visiting teams feel like "sissies."

Jennifer Modestou, the director of UI Equal Opportunity and Diversity, said that when Title IX complaints are filed, her office looks to witnesses and documents involved with the situation and begins an investigation. The office aims to complete the process within 45 days.

Following the formal investigation, she said, the office makes recommendations to the dean or vice president of the affected department, but it's up to the administrators to handle the situation.

Steve Parrott, the director of University Relations, said he has been unable to contact Gaulding and that the university does not respond to potential lawsuits.

"If a complaint is filed, we will respond in the appropriate venue, which is through the court system," he said in an e-mail, declining further comment.

An "interesting series of events" played out when the controversy surfaced two years ago, Gaulding said.

Following internal discussion with then-President David Skorton in 2005, Gaulding and colleague Erin Buzuvis made a public statement on the issue to a NCAA public hearing.

Gaulding, who left the university in part because of how the locker-room ordeal panned out, said then-Vice Provost Patricia Cain made the decision not to include the statement because it was "a university issue" and should be dealt with internally.

Plans for Skorton to form a committee to look into the matter were not executed.

"The university was very discouraging when trying to make it a public issue," Gaulding said, pointing to numerous e-mails left unanswered by the administration.

Since 2005, the controversy has lain dormant, which she attributes to a lack of permanent leadership available to address the issue.

Gaulding recently sent UI President Sally Mason a letter congratulating her on her new position and asking what she was willing to do to address the issue of the pink locker room.

To date, the correspondence has received no reply.

"Sadly, they seem to assume ignoring the problem will make it go away," Gaulding said. "They really want to have as little to do with the problem as possible."

She set up a stand on Melrose Avenue during the Nov. 17 football game as part of what she refers to as her obligation to further inform the community about the controversy.

She said with all the foot traffic around Iowa City on game day, the stand was a perfect opportunity to present the petition and educate the public on the discriminatory issue.

As Gaulding expected, feedback came from everyone from hecklers to feminists, she said.

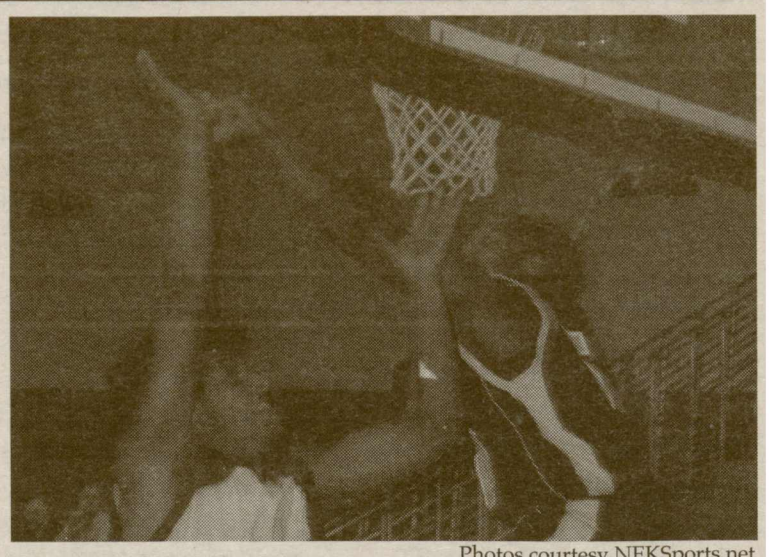
The petition gathered an estimated 100 signatures, she said, noting that it alone would do little to resolve the controversy.

She said she plans to file the complaint in the near future.

"Filing a Title IX complaint will be a useful step, certainly the biggest legal step I can take," she said. "But ultimately, it's public opinion that can lead to the removal of the pink locker room."

Christine Grant, who has nearly 30 years of experience with Title IX issues as a former Hawkeye women's athletics director, said she would need to familiarize herself with the specifics of the complaint before she could judge whether Gaulding was making a wise move. Grant said she agrees the pink locker room is unnecessary.

"I don't support the pink locker room," she said. "It was done in a different era, way back, and I think our society has progressed significantly since then. I don't see a need for it."



Photos courtesy NEKSports.net

Top: Junior center Kali Stoddard scores two of his 21 points against MCLA on Wednesday. The Hornets beat the Trailblazers 97-90.
Below: Junior guard Cesar Martinez dribbles toward the basket against MCLA.

LSC Ski & Board Report

Resort	Recent Snow	Base	Open
		Vermont	
Burke	3" Thurs.	36" total snow	Dec. 8 summit to base
Jay	7" since Wed.	36-50" PDR/PP	64 trails, five lifts
		New Hampshire	
B. Woods:	2-3" Thurs.	36-42" PP/PDR	42 trails, three lifts
Attitash	2" Dec. 4	12-24" PP/PDR	23 trails, five lifts
		Maine	
Sunday River	1" Wed.	16-40" PP	57 trails, eight lifts
Sugarloaf	6" Dec. 4	17-32" PP/PDR	60 trails, four lifts

Notes: PP: Packed powder; PDR: Powder. Sources: snocountry.com, skiburke.com. For more information on your favorite resort, call them or visit their Web sites.

What's the buzz? The latest news on the Hornets

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

Senior runner Lyndsay Calkins was named the top female athlete for October by the Vermont Sportswriters and Sportscasters Association.

Calkins won five out of eight races this season. She will still be eligible to run next fall as she completes her double major in accounting and exercise science. Calkins was also named to the USCAA All-American team for the second year in a row.

Along with Calkins, three other Lyndon State athletes were named to the All-American team. Sophomore runner Jeremiah Powell earned a selection after finishing fifth at the USCAA National Meet in Virginia, runnin the eight-kilometer course in 28 minutes, 45.11 seconds.

Junior striker Kelly Warren and sophomore midfielder Kathy Kline rounded out Lyndon's representation on the All-American team. Warren led the women's soccer team with 11 goals and seven assists for 29 points. Kline was second with 11 goals and five assists for 27 points.

Senior Whitney Hoyt and junior Cesar Martinez were named Lyndon State's Athletes of the Week for the week ending Nov. 25.

Andrew Longley is out with a torn calf, while Warren is out with a knee injury.

Upcoming Events

Basketball: 12/9 vs. Paul Smith College; women @ 1 p.m., men @ 3 p.m.; 1/8 vs. Southern Maine Community College; women @ 5 p.m., men @ 7 p.m. 1/11: men vs. Southern Virginia University, 7 p.m.; 1/12: women vs. Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, 2 p.m.

Hockey: 12/7 vs. St. Joseph's College (ME), 8:15 p.m.; 2/1 vs. Daniel Webster College

Note: Home basketball games held at the Stannard Gymnasium. Home hockey games held at the Fenton Chester Arena, across from Lyndon Institute.

The Critic

Serving the student voice of Lyndon State College

One copy free, extras 50 cents each

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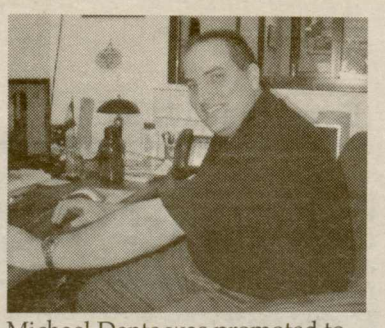


Michael Dente was promoted to chief technology officer recently. Read about inside. pg. 6

LSC sends off December graduates

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.
Critic Editor

"You smell that?" Sarah Donaghy, a graduating English major, said holding up her certificate after the December graduation ceremony. "That's 75 grand worth of debt right there."

Alex Hudson, a mathematics major, was worn out after four years of education. "I think I'm going to go take a nap," Hudson said.

"I'm actually going to go visit my parents in Africa," Austin Rumsey, Television Studies major, said. "We're going to do some missionary work."

For Emily Lapointe, an education major, the dreaded post-graduate job search isn't a concern. "I work at Lyndon Town School right now as a paraeducator and I will stay there." Lapointe likes where she works, but said she would consider moving out west at some point and then perhaps return to Vermont.

"The graduation celebration is always exciting," LSC President Carol Moore said in the Alexander Twilight Theatre yesterday. "Remember, opportunities come with expectations and moving forward requires you to take risks."

Moore, along with Dean of Academic and Student Affairs, Donna Dalton and VSC Board of Trustees member Charles Bucknam, were present to speak to the graduates. Introducing the guest speaker, Professor of education, Timothy Sturm, was Julie Theoret, professor of mathematics.

"I've only been here eight years, but I've seen first hand the impact one person can have on an institution," Theoret said of Sturm and his long, heavy involvement with the school and the community.

"He thinks deeply about everything," Theoret said. "When Tim talks, I listen."

Sturm lent some advice from his mother he got on his own graduation. "Congratulations. If I read your name in the paper, it better be good news," Sturm said.

The rest of his speech focused on something he had said shortly after 9/11 when asked to give a memorial speech. He brought up the story of a girl who had been born to a colleague on 9/11 and then spoke of a fictional, although likely real, child born in Afghanistan on the same day.

Our job as leaders of the next generation, Sturm said to the graduates, is to build a world for the two children, now six years old. A world based on justice and compassion.

"We celebrate your achievements, we believe in you, and when we read your name in the paper we know it will be good news," Sturm said.

Photo by Kathy Harrington

Friends, faculty, family, and December graduates sat in the Alexander Twilight Theatre yesterday. The guest speaker was professor of education, Timothy Sturm, who told the December graduates to make sure that if they appeared in the newspaper, it was to be good news.

LSC releases crime report

"I would consider LSC a safe campus." - George Hacking, LSC's director of Public Safety.

By Ben Holbrook
Special to The Critic

LSC recently posted information about Public Safety, crime statistics, and crime awareness from the past three years.

The report covers a wide variety of information ranging from burglary to drug possessions. According to the crime report the majority of the crimes committed on the LSC campus were referrals for drug or alcohol possession. In 2005, 232 students were referred for alcohol violations, as opposed to only 145 students in 2006.

Other colleges in Vermont are also required to post their crime statistics online. In comparison to LSC, Johnson State College had fewer violations for alcohol and drugs, 80 referrals in 2004 and 115 in 2005. The JSC crime report covers crimes from 2003-2005. Although JSC had fewer referrals for drugs and alcohol, they had more criminal offenses, such as, 18 burglaries in 2005 as opposed to LSC having only two in the same year.

Although the number of drug and alcohol referrals tends to be higher, very few sexual assaults, aggravated assaults, or illegal weapon possessions occurred from 2004-2006. "I would consider LSC a safe campus," George Hacking, LSC's director of Public Safety said.

For more information on the crime statistics, the report is posted on the home page of the LSC Web site under Public Safety. A hard copy of the report can also be obtained in Student Services.

The Jeanne Cleary Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act requires colleges to post information about various crimes committed. Crime statistics are covered from 2004-2006 in this year's crime report for LSC.

Above and bellow Photos by Kathy Harrington

Above: LSC listed 45 students to recieve their certificates at the December ceremony. After the names were read and all the speeches were given, the grads posed for a photo-op.

Bellow: Pianist Bill Cote and the LSC choristers provided music for the occasion along with Will Raymond on the bagpipe and Dan Bishop on the drum.

Scholarship Committee's fundraiser sets personal record

By Amanda Wozniak
Critic Staff

The Faculty/Staff Scholarship Committee's silent auction reached last years total and then surpassed it. "We had a record breaker this year because people were so generous with their donations," said Patricia Webster, Library Cataloger and chair of the committee. The proceeds from the auction will go towards the Faculty/Staff Scholarships, which can be applied for by LSC students.

There were over 115 items donated this year and the event grows every year, Webster said. The auction had items from handmade winter wear, Christmas decorations, and snow shoes to gift certificates for the Old Mill and the St. Johnsbury Academy Field House. One of the larger items up for bid was a seven-day stay at a two-bedroom condo in Long-boat Key.

Faculty, staff, and friends donated items for the auction. "Without their help we would not be able to give the amount of scholarships we do," said Jo-Ann Charron an LSC custodian and a member of the Faculty/Staff Scholarship Committee. Last year the committee gave out ten $500 scholarships.

The silent auction isn't all that the committee does to raise money for the scholarships. They also host a yard sale during parent's weekend, which was their original project. On top of that they host a monthly 'comfy day' where faculty and staff can pay $1 to dress casually for the day. Their newest event, a suggestion of Hannah Manley, Director of Alumni Relations & Developments, is Spring Dip for Scholarships. At this event students, faculty and staff who have gotten pledges to support them jump into the pond on campus. The first Spring Dip for scholarships was held during the spring '07 semester and the water was still very cold. They will host this event again and students are invited to wear costumes if they like. Webster remembered last year as being "small, enthusiastic and a lot of fun."

The Faculty/Staff Scholarship Committee's purpose for existing is to give money to financially needy students. "The faculty and staff understand the financial burden that students bear, the committee was created to help students even in the smallest way," said Webster.

The decisions for the scholarships are made in mid April. There is a GPA requirement but good grades aren't all the committee looks at. They also take the students future goals and financial need into consideration.

Photo By Amanda Wozniak
Krystal Csiki writes down her bid for a knit winter hat.

Photo By Kathy Harrington
People peruse the silent auction items up for bid in the student center.

Student's 'crunch time' feelings exposed

Students share thier stresses about the ending semester

By Gillian Moore
Special to the Critic

Once again it is the end of the semester and students are under that "crunch time" stress that always hits around exams.

"I'm kind of freaking out about graduating," Katie Ketcham said, "I need to pass all these classes, like GEUs, to finish my liberal studies degree. I hate the end of the semester."

Everything that was put off for later needs to be finished and time is running out by the day.

"It's so crazy," senior Krystle Gould said, "I have finals and then basketball practice and basketball games." Luckily, she loves basketball and puts up with the stress to play. "Sunday and Monday this week are my homework nights because the rest of the week is going to be crazy."

Senior Derek Fortier is feeling the same way. "I'm cramming everything into one week," Fortier said, "and it seems impossible to do because something keeps popping up."

This time of the semester usually means no fun, or at least very little of it. In Fortier's case it's no Halo, something he plays everyday. "No fun at all," Fortier said, "people should feel my pain."

Senior Meg Sedore is glad this is the last time she will have to deal with crunch time stress. "I'm stressing out because everything is all due this week," Sedore said, "like projects, presentations, exams, papers, and I'm going crazy."

Not all students are completely stressed out at "crunch time" Senior Tyler Southard has kept on top of his work, and feels very little pressure right now. "I'm not feeling too bad about the workload right now," Southard said. "I've done pretty well this semester not procrastinating so my work load is just slightly above average."

Senior Christine Cyr feels the same. "The end of the semester is actually kind of boring," Cyr said. "Class wise I'm not stressed at all. I'm just excited for break."

Students share ways to relieve finals stress

By Catherine Story
Special to the Critic

With long papers and weighty exams students can't help but feel stressed during finals. Some LSC students have ways of beating that stress.

Craig Flint, a junior, has a lot of ways to stay above the stress.

"I surround myself with good friends," he said. "I also tend to smoke a lot and go out to eat."

Flint also said he likes to watch LSC basketball, but there is just one more home game before finals.

Avery Williams, whose birthday is Dec. 10, was excited about finals for a different reason.

"I'm turning 21," he said. "I am going to get wasted."

Several students said they would be dealing with the stress by drinking but didn't want their names used because they were not 21.

Students also need to say goodbye to a lot of their on-campus friends during finals week.

"I like to catch up with friends before break and play board games," Williams said. He was looking forward to Trivial Pursuit in Stevens Dining Hall during finals week.

Amber Donato, an English major, will be writing some long papers and taking exams including a difficult Bible as Literature test from professor Richard Moye. She also plans on beating the finals stress by attending events at the dining hall during finals week.

Sophomore Ashley Giddix relieves stress in a different way.

"I burn things," Giddix said, adding she likes to melt highlighters.

Giddix also goes for drives at night. She and her friends drive to Burke Mountain and Lake Willoughby. Sometimes getting off campus helps to relieve the finals stress.

"I sleep as much as possible," said Stormie Griffin. For many students sleep is difficult to come by during this crunch time.

Joint effort being made to prevent book thefts

By Ben Holbrook
Special to the Critic

With the end of the semester fast approaching, book thieves are on the lookout to make a quick buck.

In a joint effort to prevent books from being wrongfully taken, Public Safety and the LSC bookstore are warning students as to how they can protect their property. Since books tend to be taken closer to the end of the semester, students are encouraged to mark their books, like a page that has their favorite number. Anita Little-Drown, manager of the LSC bookstore, said if somebody tries to sell the book the owner can be identified because they will be able to explain the significance of the mark.

The bookstore will notify Public Safety if a person tries to sell a book that doesn't belong to them, George Hacking, Director of Public Safety, said. In order to deter people from selling stolen books the bookstore asks for a student ID or driver's license, Little-Drown said. The bookstore also has new software that allows for easier tracking of books.

Web orders and books that are paid for through student accounts are the easiest to trace, Little-Drown said, whereas cash transactions are much more difficult.

"The sad part is, there are many other ways for people to make money," said Little-Drown. Instead of trying to sell the books to the bookstore, people will sell them online which is much harder to prevent, Hacking said. Even with all of these precautions students are, "victims waiting to happen if they don't take care of their property," Hacking said.

If your books are stolen then you should notify both Public Safety and the bookstore so that they will know what books were taken.

Do your part to help reduce holiday waste

By Kurt Heinchon
Special to the Critic

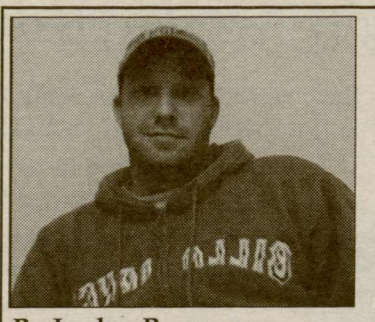
The holiday season is upon us, the time of the year when trash generation increases 25 percent compared to the rest of the year. There are many ways to reduce the amount of holiday extras that get thrown away. Wrapping paper and greeting cards are a large part of the season, but they do not have to be a large part of the trash. There are many alternatives to tossing the wrapping paper and other packaging in the trash. Creative reuse of common household items can make unique and money saving wrap. A little care when unwrapping presents can allow paper to be saved for next year, or be easily recycled.

Buy wrapping paper and cards that are printed on recycled stock paper. Buying recycled products closes the recycling loop. Bows, ribbons and foils are not recyclable items. These can easily be removed from the bulk of the paper, which is then recycled in the mixed paper section at your recycling center. Perhaps the paper you recycle this year will end up as next years wrapping paper.

Show your crafty side and make your own wrapping paper. Paper bags, plain paper or pieces of colorful fabric can easily be spruced up with dried flowers, pine cones, or holiday stencils for a personal, thoughtful touch. Reusable gift boxes can save the work of wrapping and be used year after year.

Greeting cards are a great way to stay in touch with family and friends. There are many beautiful cards with recycled content on the market that are readily available. An alternative to mailing out cards, and a paper saver is to send holiday tidings with an e-card. When the holidays are over, be sure to recycle cards printed on plain stock, or save them to use as tags and decorations next year. There are several organizations that collect greeting cards for reuse every season.

The easiest way to reduce the amount of trash that your family generates is to try to purchase items with minimal packaging or recyclable packaging. Happy Holidays! For more tips on trash reduction and recycling, contact the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District at 626-3532 or (800) 734-4602, by e-mail at progmgr@nekwmd.org or check out their Web site at www.nekwmd.org.



Holy Sheet

By Jordan Royer
Sex columnist

Holiday's are a time for giving, but sometimes we just don't have the money to give anything store bought. If that is your case this holiday season, I might have the perfect remedy, well, at least for that special someone in your life.

When times are tough and the money flow is non existent, often times you can become stressed, especially around the holidays. What to buy, where to buy, how can I afford it? Well I am here to tell you to forget about all of those questions. Stop stressing and start sexing.

The holidays should be a time of love and sharing, so when you are spending time with your partner or someone you are or soon to be intimate with, be just that, loving. Often times the meanings of the holidays is overshadowed by the stress of gift giving. Let's change that and make the holiday's a little less about how muchthe gift costs and more about what the gift is.

Give that special someone the time they deserve during the holidays and share with them all the joys that accompany the holiday season. Cozy up next to a fire or do whatever it is that makes you happy, because that is what is ultimately important this time of year.

Ok, enough of the boring stuff. So the holidays are a time to share love, but it can also be a time to experiment and welcome new ideas that your partner may have. Give the gift of love and lovemaking this holiday season, because few gifts can compare to a good session between the sheets, or for that matter, wherever your desires bring you.

Save some money by giving gifts of love. Why buy expensive things when all you really need is some good 'ol one on one time, or, maybe some two on one, depends on just what you are looking for this year. Find out exactly what you partner likes or wants and see if you can make it happen this holiday season and have him or her do the same for you. Expand your limits and explore the sexual powers of your relationship. Give your partner what they really want this Christmas, instead of that fancy dust collector from years past. Make this holiday season one to remember.

So you know that your partner really likes it when you ho-hum their he-haws. Well, there you go, that is the perfect gift. But don't forget yourself. You know just what you like or what you think you might like to try, well, put that on your gift list and see if partner-Claus comes through. Don't be fooled by the sparkles of diamonds or the look of new clothes, make this holiday season special by giving and getting what you and your partner really want. Knock each others stockings off this holiday season.

Position of the Week-
X Position

The Three Count: The Evolution of Mike "The Miz" Mizanin, independent to professional

By Timothy "Timmy" Kemp

It has been a few weeks since I have written a column, but I am back for all you fans of professional wrestling.

If you are a fan of a lot of reality shows on MTV, such as the Real World and Road Rules, I'm sure you remember Mike Mizanin. He was the guy with his alter ego "The Miz" that had a passion of always wanting to be a professional wrestler. His dream came true in April of 2006 when he made his debut for World Wrestling Entertainment on their Smack-Down brand after competing for several years on the independent scene.

Now like a lot of other fans, I wasn't really a huge fan of The Miz when he competed on Smackdown, because I felt he was trying too hard to get noticed by the fans. I thought his catchphrase of "Hoorah!" was very obnoxious and his antics were juvenile, but I always tried to support him because I knew how much he really wanted to be there.

On June 17, 2007, The Miz was drafted to Extreme Championship Wrestling, which is the ECW brand of the WWE. Every since he made his debut on Tuesday nights, I believe he has really stepped up his game, not only as a great wrestler, but with his ability to cut descent promos. He is the self-proclaimed "Chick Magnet" with his manager Layla, along with being the co/holder of the WWE Tag Team Champions with John Morrison.

I thoroughly enjoyed the tag team match this past week, when he and John Morrison faced Smackdown's Jimmy Wang Yang and Shannon Moore. This was a very good match in terms of wrestling, and shows that The Miz very well could be on his way to bigger and better things. On a side not, if you every get a chance to watch ECW on Tuesday nights on Sci-Fi, there are some up and coming superstars with unbelievable talent. It is the developmental brand of the WWE, and the stars can put on great matches.

The Miz is a guy that kind of had a rocky start in the beginning of his career, but now has found his spot. I think some of the fans are kind of hesitant to be fans of him because they believe, "He doesn't deserve his sport. He just got famous from being on MTV." I completely disagree with that, because sure he got noticed from reality shows, but he was working hard in other smaller promotions while he was being a TV star. I think the future looks bright for him, and overtime the fans will recognize his accomplishments in wrestling, and not for his affiliation with MTV. I wish him the best in his career, and hopefully will continue on the roll that he is on.

Letter Policy:

The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must be signed and include the author's phone number and address. The Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:

critic@lyndonstate.edu
or to:
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A seedling business grows to maturity

By Amanda Wozniak
Critic Staff

Bill Asack drives his Dodge truck across his 75-acre property on a hilltop overlooking the valley between Barton and Orleans. He passes seed beds, transplant beds, tractors and a field of 15,000 Christmas trees — and he sees where 20 years of labor have brought him.

"If I would have known Christmas tree farming was this much work, I wouldn't have gotten into the business," Mr. Asack jokes.

Starting Saturday, Asack and Son Tree Farms will be open seven days a week — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. — until Christmas Eve. Customers choose and cut their own trees, but Mr. Asack helps out by marking his best specimens with a blue ribbon. Every tree is $30. The hot chocolate and the candy canes from the ten-foot candy cane tree are free.

Mr. Asack also has a selection of wreaths. He makes them from cultivated brush and uses two-color bows he ties himself.

"Andy doesn't touch the wreaths — his bows don't look as good as mine," says Mr. Asack.

Andy is the son in Asack and Son Tree Farms. Mr. Asack calls Andy his "right-hand man," but the farm only benefits from his elbow grease on weekends. Andy Asack graduated from the University of Vermont with a mechanical engineering degree and works five days a week at Lydall in St. Johnsbury.

"Neither of us got a degree in agriculture," says the senior Mr. Asack.

Bill Asack is a graduate of Northeastern University in Massachusetts, where he played football and majored in business.

After college he worked in construction. During the 1970s oil crisis, he moved to Arlington, Texas, for work. That's where he met and wooed Beverly, who would become his wife.

The couple honeymooned in Woodstock, and Mr. Asack decided to make his home in the state. When his wife came down with multiple sclerosis, he looked around for a job in his backyard and came up with Christmas tree farming. Now Mr. Asack can take care of his wife as well as the business and never needs to leave the property.

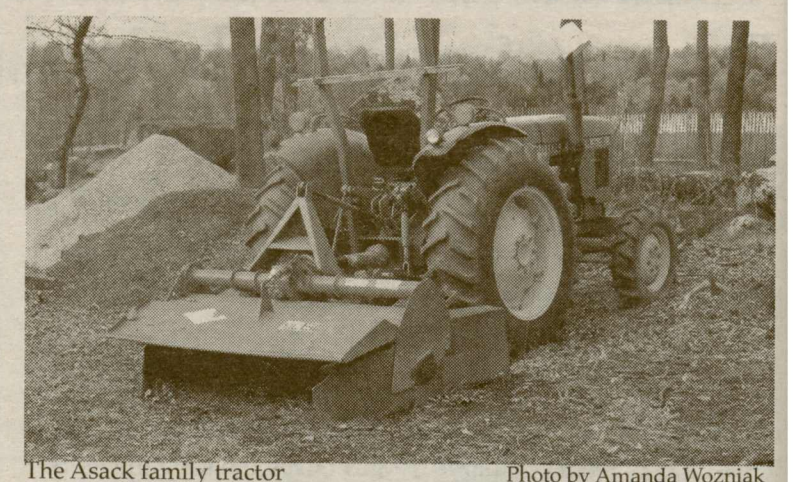
The Asacks' hilltop location is no accident: "The height protects trees against late spring frosts," says Mr. Asack.

He began field-planting trees at the farm in 1987. Seven years and 7,000 hand-planted trees later, he started selling.

In the early years, trees began as seedlings brought in from another farm. These days, Mr. Asack cultivates his own seeds. Now he sells seedlings to other farms. In September he hosted a Vermont-New Hampshire Christmas Tree Association field meeting and sold out his nursery of seedlings.

Mr. Asack's mainstays are balsam fir and Fraser fir as well as a hybrid of the two. Now he wants to give exotics a try. Two seasons ago he bought 50 acres and hopes to start growing ten new species over the next two years. They include Meyers spruce from China, Korean spruce, Arizona cork fir, blue noble fir, Turkish fir, and Nordman fir.

"I think people want variety," Mr. Asack says.



The Asack family tractor Photo by Amanda Wozniak

How a Christmas tree is grown

By Amanda Wozniak
Critic Staff

If you see a tree with a pink ribbon at Asack and Son Tree Farms, don't cut it down.

The ribbons identify Bill Asack's seed trees. He grows his Christmas trees from seeds he plucks from the pinecones at the tops of the pink-ribboned specimens.

That's the start of a long journey to your living room.

First, Mr. Asack freezes the seeds until they can be planted in the spring. Before they go into seed beds, he tests for viability.

Seedlings stay in the seed beds for two to three years. The strongest are moved to transplant beds with more spacing. There they remain for another two years before Mr. Asack plants them in the field or sells them. He prunes them by hand from the third year until harvest.

Planting from seed rather than buying seedlings adds about five years to Mr. Asack's growing process, but he says it is worth it.

The trees remain in the field about ten years before Mr. Asack sells them to his customers. Once they enter a living room they are 13 to 15 years old.

"They all grow at different speeds," Mr. Asack says.

The Asack & Son Tree Farm Photo by Amanda Wozniak

Above: Bill Asack marks a tree
Below: A sign marking the farm's entrance
Photos by Amanda Wozniak

Homesick for the holidays — but not this year

By Krystal Csiki
Special to the Critic

Chad and Billie Jo Abbott of Newport are looking forward to a holiday treat this year. They actually get to celebrate Christmas — together — on December 25.

Mr. Abbott deployed to Iraq just weeks after the couple married in 2005, leaving Ms. Abbott behind with two new stepdaughters, ages four and eight.

"It was harder for her and the kids than for me," Mr. Abbott said. "When it came to holidays, I was too busy thinking about the job I was there to do."

Mr. Abbott and his wife were able to communicate regularly via e-mail, telephone and web cam.

"We were set in our ways," Ms. Abbott recalled, "not leaving the house without knowing exactly when and what time he was calling."

Soldiers received letters and care packages that reminded them of home.

"It gave you a warm feeling and reminded you that's why you're there," Mr. Abbott said. The Army put on huge holiday meals for the soldiers in Iraq, with turkey and all of the fixings.

"They went all out," he said. "They even had ice sculptures."

But holidays back home were rough. Ms. Abbott and the girls would usually visit other family members. The older daughter was very close to her father and took the separation hard. Sometimes she would have anxiety attacks.

Mr. Abbott returned from Iraq early this year — not in time to celebrate Christmas in December. So the family waited a month, and the Abbott Christmas came in January.

Cooking with Cook in the microwave

By Gwen Cook
Special to the Critic

The semester is winding down and you're heading home for a month or so, but that doesn't mean that you should have to settle for what ever is left in the fridge. Here are a few more mouth-watering recipes to help tide you over until the end of the semester.

Chocolate coffee- Use a coffee maker to make one cup of coffee. (Or use the instant coffee directions if you don't have one). Pour it into a mug and add one or two spoonfuls of cocoa mix. Prepare coffee mixture like usual. Stir and enjoy!

Broccoli Alfredo- Put a desired amount of noodles in a bowl and fill the bowl about ¾ of the way full with water. Cook it in the microwave for ten minutes or until done, being sure to stop and stir it every few minutes so it doesn't boil over. Once the pasta is finished drain the water and set it aside. Take the steam-in-bag broccoli and follow directions on package. Combine the pasta and broccoli, then add desired amount of Alfredo sauce. Eat up!

Chocolate Chex mix- Take two cups of Chex mix, a large bag of M&M's, two cups of cheerios, and one cup of pretzels and combine in them in a large bowl. In a separate bowl add an entire bag of chocolate chips. Melt the chocolate in the microwave for five minutes or so. (CAUTION: Chocolate burns very easily! Be sure to check as well as stir often). Once it is melted add the chocolate to the cereal mixture and stir. Put it into a fridge to cool for about five minutes and stir again. Serve when completely cooled.

Macaroni and Cheese w/ veggies and hotdogs- Take an Easy Mac packet and prepare as directed. Set aside. Put a hot dog on a plate and cook it in the microwave for about one minute making sure it doesn't split or blow up. Cut up the hot dog and set it aside. Take steam-in-bag mixed veggies and prepare as directed. Combine all three and enjoy!

The Critic

Seeks a Business Manager

If you like looking after money and earning money, let's talk.

Lyndon State College's student-run newspaper is looking for someone to run the financial side of The Critic for spring semester.

The position is paid.

As business manager, you will sell ads and oversee other advertising staff.

You will also balance the newspaper's books, handle invoices, and serve as treasurer of the Critic Club.

Pay is through a commission from advertising sales.

To apply, send Critic Editor Keith Whitcomb an e-mail outlining your plans to put the newspaper on a solid financial footing.

Attach a resume, too.

Send applications to:
keith.whitcomb@lyndonstate.edu

Photos by Norman Johnson
Janet Gray (right) smiles about her succesful restaurant, The Miss Lyndonville Diner, shown above

Diner has grown into a must stop eatery

By Norman Johnson
Special to the Critic

Before The Miss Lyndonville Diner, there was a small truck stop diner with a rough enough reputation that women wouldn't grace its doorstep. Today "The Diner" is one of Lyndonville's destination stops for tourists and is the local meeting place.

Neither Ashley nor Janet Gray was interested in restaurants when they first came to Lyndonville.

"I thought we weren't going back into the restaurant business," were the first words out of Janet's mouth one day 30 years ago when Ashley came home with the news that the Rustic Restaurant was for sale.

"It was an opportunity that presented itself," Janet Gray said. Since running restaurants was what they did best, they took the plunge.

"The old place was a truck stop in every sense of the word," Gray said. Changing the location's reputation was difficult at first. "It was a struggle introducing ourselves to the community."

The 1981 Summer issue of Vermont Magazine broke the ice with an issue featuring business categories of the best of Vermont. The Miss Lyndonville Diner was judged the best place to have breakfast in the state.

"That was a major turning point in people taking a close look at what we do here," Gray said.

The Gray's came to Lyndonville with an extensive background with the Big Boy Restaurant chain in Ohio. "We took the big corporate approach, scaled it down and made it real," Gray said. Then the locals told them what they wanted. "They expected a certain treatment. They educated us, there's no doubt about it."

The restaurant began as a New England style Sterling. Sterling Diners were designed to look like railroad dining cars with arched-ceilings and the cooking area behind the counter. The Sterling Diners were usually named like trains: Miss, followed by the town the diner was home to.

"There was never any question—it was a diner," Gray said. There were a few changes to be made initially. "When we came here, the restrooms were outside." Since then, the diner has been added on to five times.

"I really think that the Diner became unique and special because we listened to the public," Gray said. "Ashley was in the kitchen, and I was in the dining room. We would listen and put our own spin on it. It really took on a life of its own."

"Thirty years later it's a lot more complicated than when we first started," Gray said. "Mostly from increased seating and menu expansion. When we started, we had two employees, now we have 50."

At one time, the Grays owned four to six restaurants locally, with The Miss Lyndonville Diner always at the core of the businss. "Everything else was just a side venture," Gray said.

Ashley Gray passed away two-and-a-half years ago. "We knew for a year that he was going to die," Gray said. "We planned the best we could for this stage of things. It's been a transition doing things without him, but he felt he had his crew ready to continue on." Gray said. Even two-and-a-half years later the team and business is still solid.

Gray continues to concentrate on the core business. This includes listening to customers, keeping the menu interesting, and looking for more efficient procedures, "trying to do better all the time," Gray said.

Presently four competing restaurants operate within sight of The Miss Lyndonville Diner, a new restaurant opened this year. "Whenever there's a new restaurant there's an impact for a while," Gray said. "It will be interesting to see in March or April if they have affected our winters."

The Miss Lyndonville Diner keeps cranking out breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and the staff keeps giving the signature great service. The bottom line can found displayed on the wall inside the front door of the diner. Among the reviews from Vermont Life, Yankee Magazine, and others is a framed Zippy the Pinhead cartoon of a railcar diner mounted to U.S. Senate letterhead. A note says, "Great Food!" Signed, Patrick Leahy.

Lyndon State alumnus Michael Dente receives promotion after eight years of service, Dente hits the top of IT's ladder

By Eric Downing
Critic Staff

Lyndon State's Chief Technology Officer (CTO), Michael Dente, sits in front of the computer in his office, blocking junk e-mails and searching for software updates. He has just been promoted from Assistant Chief Technology Officer (ACTO), but work continues as normal.

"There was no ceremony," Dente said. What Dente has gotten is plenty of 'congratulations' and 'Good luck's'. He doesn't mind, though. Dente enjoys his job immensely. "It's really exciting," he said of his job. "I'm doing everything."

Dente, a '99 alumnus from LSC, has been working in the IT department since graduation. He began his career as a work study student, steadily making his way up the ladder. Dente had transferred from his home of Long Island, and found it hard to leave Vermont once he got here. "I love the place," he said. He also believes that strong school spirit and the recreational activities of snowmobiling and golf contributed to making him want to stay.

Three years into his career, Dente achieved his former position of Assistant Chief Technology Officer or ACTO, and it took him only five years to be appointed as the Chief Technology officer. Even as the ACTO Dente said he was basically running the department. The former CTO, Linda Hilton, worked on Blackboard for the Vermont State College system, while Dente was responsible for running LSC 's Informational Technology Department. Now, he welcomes the new responsibility as well as the increase in pay. "I've gone from a grade 13 to a grade 15," he said. This means he'll make between $5-$10 thousand dollars more per year.

The big perk of the job for Dente, though, seems to be the work he gets to do with other people. "[We] take an intern every semester," he said. "It works out for us and them." A lot of IT is also comprised of LSC alumni, all of whom started out more or less the same way Dente did. "I couldn't ask for a place better to learn than this." He talked about how IT works to keep people interested in the department. "We home grow people," he said. "[We have] a lot of diversity when it comes to IT."

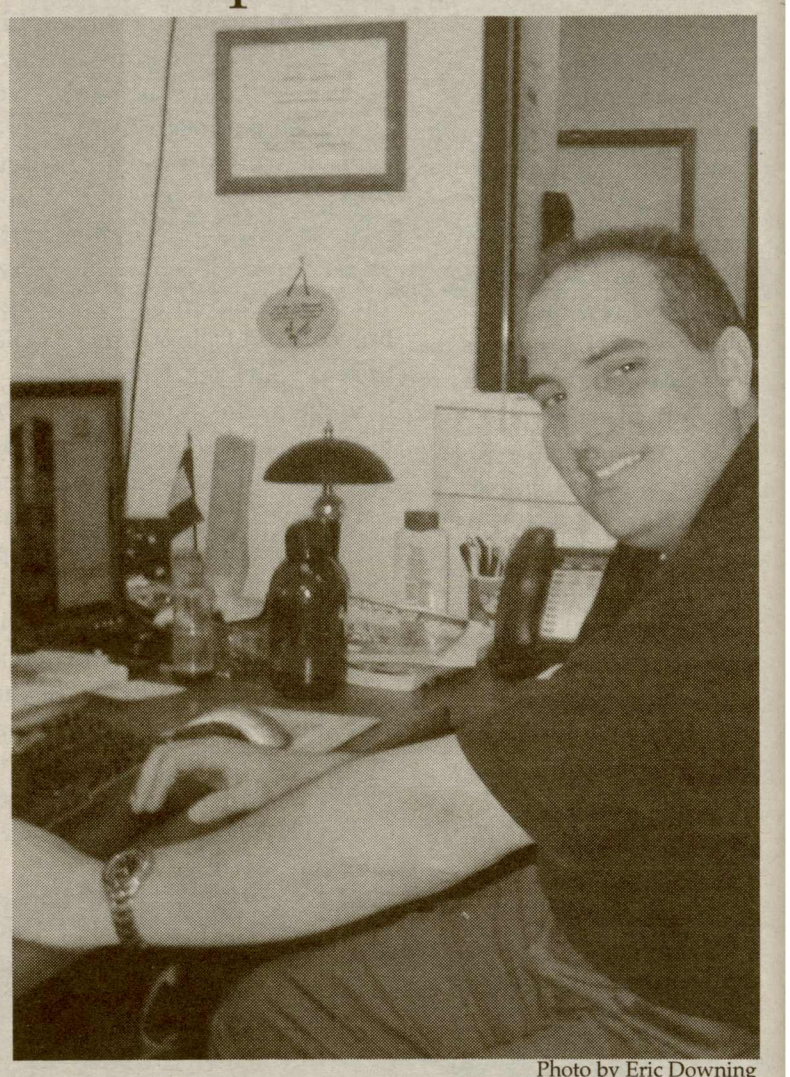


Photo by Eric Downing

Michael Dente hard at work.

School's meteorology team ranks second place in country-wide competition

By Heather Perkins
Critic Staff

LSC students are kicking butt and taking temperatures in the National Forecast Contest.

Participants are ranked at number one and two of forecasters in the country for the junior/senior division after being halfway done with the contest.

"It's a pretty impressive feat," Jason Shafer, assistant professor, said.

The challenge of the contest is on the WxChallenge Web site. It is to "forecast the maximum and minimum temperatures, precipitation, and maximum wind speeds for select U.S cities. Over a ten-week period (each semester), you'll compete against the nation's top student and faculty meteorologists for honors as the top weather forecaster in the nation."

Last year out of 55 teams in the regular season, LSC came in 19th. This year, out of 64 schools and 1,324 individuals competing, the team is currently ranked in second with Mississippi State University holding first place.

The WxChallenge was developed in 2006 at the University of Oklahoma, and has been active since. It is open to all undergraduate, graduate, PhD students, along with higher-educated faculty and staff. The university wanted to bring "a state-of-the-art, fun, and exciting forecasting contest to students in colleges and universities across the country."

The contest is scheduled to finish up with the final city being Dodge City, KA, for April 25, 2008. Several previous cities were Wenatchee, WA; Peoria, IL; and Portland. MA. Scholarships will be awarded to the top undergraduate and graduate forecaster for each city, though the amount will vary, depending on the funding sources for this year.

An award for those that just like art

By Tabitha Fitzgerald
Critic Staff

A new annual award is given out to students that participate in the arts. These students do not have to be art majors. They just have to participate in the arts at LSC.

Upon their retirement Dick and Terry Portner created the endowment that funds the Portner Prize Pat Webster, the library Cataloger and the chair of the Portner Prize Committee. The idea of the award is "to nurture, support and recognize accomplishments in the arts by presenting an annual prize to a junior or senior who, regardless of major, has been consistently involved in music, art or theatre events," she said.

The award varies from year to year. The monetary award is not a scholarship Webster said. The award is meant to be for whatever the student wishes to support what they are doing in the arts.

The award focuses on students that participate in music, theater or art at LSC. This does not include graphic design, television studies or other media, Webster said. "Those venues have or will have their own awards," she said.

The award is handed out in the spring at the Rising Student Ceremony. The first Portner Prize was given out in March of 2007. The first recipient was Matthew Randall. He qualified for the award through his work with the Twilight Players and the Community Orchestra.

Information about the award will began to be advertised at the beginning of the spring semester. Students interested will have to fill out an application and submit a portfolio, CD, DVD or other proof of their involvement in the arts.

ENG-3050 students run holiday feature for class

By Heather Perkins
Critic Staff

Saving Christmas and earning credit at the same time, students of Dan William's ENG-3050 Publication Production class worked to put out a special holiday section of the Barton Chronicle.

The section was a called "Kickoff to the holidays," and featured various stories about the season and the holiday itself.

The class was made up of five students: Krystal Csiki, Eric Downing, Jake Mardin, Jordan Royer, and Amanda Wozniak.

The editor of "The Chronicle" put it best in a special editor's note on the holiday section about everything that the class did: "the five students in the class came up with story ideas, arranged interviews, took photographs, wrote stories, contacted readers for their holiday memories, traveled with 'The Chronicle' advertising representatives, sold some ads, designed and made up an ad or two apiece, created a cover design, mapped out a plan for the edition and laid out pages."

In a press release, Wozniak commented with, "It was a good experience because the project was more involved than just writing."

LSC sponsored an ad featured in the special that allowed the students to have their section done in color. Also, the students aided in selling other ads. "At the beginning I was assuming the students wouldn't be involved in selling the ads," Williams said. But when they went to meet with people of "The Chronicle" they were asked, "How'd you like to sell some ads?" And Williams said that some of the students did.

"It was difficult, but we learned a lot, and got a feel for the job," Downing said.

Williams said that the year before the class did a brochure for the New England Travel and Tourism Associations. "It was more satisfying with the newspaper." They previously had run into trouble with having to deal with a committee that only met several times in the semester, and that the brochure wasn't even printed until the summer.

Each student ran two to three stories each, some of which are being featured in this issue of "The Critic" on pages four and five.

"We're looking to do it again," Williams said about the coming year and the feature.

Fun Page

"This shameless plug brought to you by the 'give the Overlord of Fun five dollars' fund. Please, support a struggling fun page creator."

Major-ly Hard Word Find

W	W	J	I	G	B	F	W	R	V	Y	H	Q	Y	G	O	L	O	R	O	E	T	E	M	P
P	X	K	E	G	V	F	G	W	O	M	N	Y	N	R	E	U	F	J	X	N	Y	G	G	H
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S	O	E	C	N	E	I	C	S	L	A	T	N	E	M	N	O	R	I	V	N	E	N	T	A

Here at LSC we have a selection of majors. I have artfully hidden 12 of the majors offered at LSC in this very word find. See if you can scope them out. If you don't find your major, you can always white-out a few letters and write it in if you wish. Have a great break!

Web-Tested Sudoku

	9			3				
					4	7		2
	6	4				3		
	8			1				
2			9		8			6
				6			5	
		1				4	8	
4		3	7					
				2			1	

This week's sudoku is brought to you by sudokuhints.com. The Overlord found this site to be very helpful for the training of one's Sudoku abilities. Now you know how to spend your vacation. The arches around where the numbers go are for you to write in numbers that could possibly be in the box.

Weather Forecast (by popular demand)

STUDENT METEOROLOGIST: Bryan Shaw

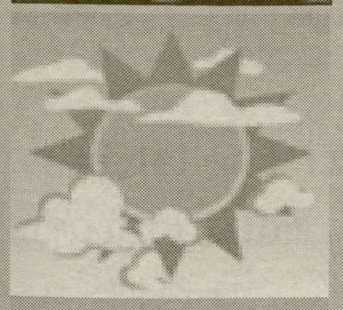
A system from Ohio will follow Thursday's snow showers, bringing more snow throughout the day. Expect total accumulations of 2-4 inches. High pressure then makes its way in from north of the great lakes and clears things out Saturday, only to see the makings of a nor'easter work up the coast on Sunday.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON (Dec 14, 2007)
Low: - F
High: 28-32 F

Flurries during the day mainly in the morning. Accumulations of less then an inch. West winds at 5-10 mph.

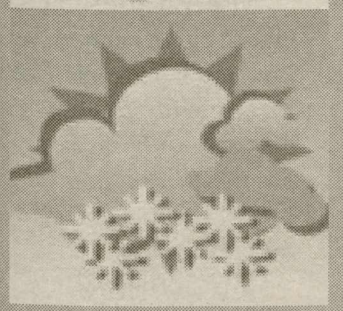
FRIDAY NIGHT (Dec 14, 2007)
Low: 8-12 F
High: - F

Skies clear out but cold temperatures. Mostly cloudy with west winds at 5-10



SATURDAY (Dec 15, 2007)
Low: 0-4 F
High: 16-20 F

Nice sunny day with winds out of the north at 5 mph.



SUNDAY (Dec 16, 2007)
Low: 6-10 F
High: 18-22 F

Snow makes a return which could be heavy at times.

Holiday Horoscopes

What did Santa bring you, honey?*

ARIES (3/21-4/19) You'll get a lot of new music. Unfortunately it will all be on cassette tapes.

TAURUS (4/20-5/20) Your gift is a 64 pack of Red Bull. Too bad you'll end up in conflict with an out-of-order bathroom after you drink it all.

GEMINI (5/21-6/21) You're going to get something completely unrelated to twins or other things that come in pairs. It's a big surprise, especially with MY creativity.

CANCER (6/22-7/22) You'll get a new Guitar Hero controller to replace the one you smashed against the TV after fudging the ending of "Freebird."

LEO (7/23-8/22) You'll get the board game Risk. I pity the fool that challenge man with Risk.

VIRGO (8/23-9/22) You'll get an enormous box of "Her Pleasure" Trojans! It'll only take you a month to use up, after you make Noah's Ark out of balloon animals.

LIBRA (9/23-10/23) You'll get underwear. Whoopty-doo! The worst part is that it will be three sizes too large.

SCORPIO (10/24-11/21) The person giving you a gift will be EXTREMELY generous. You'll be given a full tank of gas! I wish I had such a rich relative. . .

SAGITTARIUS (11/22-12/21) You will well up with excitement when you unwrap your new Nerf bow and arrow set! You can now live your wildest dreams of being an archer. . . and your dreams of being on TV when you get arrested as the result of a HUGE misunderstanding.

CAPRICORN (12/22-1/19) You'll get a fun new pet! . . .Actually it's crabs. I just tried to make light of it by telling you in a fun way.

AQUARIUS (1/20-2/18) I'm sure you (and everyone around you) will appreciate your shiny new depends!

PISCES (2/19-3/20) You'll be getting a multitude of Goldfish crackers. They'll all go stale before you can eat half of them.*

*If you do not celebrate Christmas, these gifts still apply to your equivalent gift-giving holiday. Failing that, you'll get it on your next birthday.

STUMPED!?

For solutions to this week's puzzles as well as last week's, visit our site on the Web at lyndonstate.edu/critic. The answers to this week's puzzles are coming. Chauncey was a snowman. He melted. Additional problems can be acquired by getting into a relationship with a sociopath.

Puzzles Generated by Overlord of Fun, Also know as "Twin Mole." I brought back your weather. Now you'll have something to discuss between rounds of Guitar Hero!

Basketball teams short on uniforms

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

A slight wardrobe malfunction has afflicted the LSC basketball teams.

According to men's coach Randy Rathburn, his team found themselves without a full home uniform, a full road uniform, and a couple of road shorts following their annual alumni game back in November.

"We're not positive whether the uniforms were taken from the locker room or the laundry room," Rathburn said, adding that in the past, the laundry room wasn't locked all the time. "The laundry room is locked 100 percent of the time now, as far as I know."

Rathburn said that the men's team has always had problems with practice gear coming up missing from the laundry room.

Rathburn has been involved with the men's basketball program for the last 10 years, including four as a player. He said that the team may have to order replacement uniforms and shorts, and the money to pay for those replacements would have to come out of the team's fundraising budget.

"It's unfortunate that the guys go out during the summer and raise money, and every year I've been involved in the program, several items come up missing," Rathburn said, noting that no one really knows who might've taken the uniforms.

"We have no idea. It could've been anybody. I've told the guys to just keep an eye out and see if anyone's been wearing them," Rathburn said.

The women's team is facing a similar problem, although it's not because of possible theft.

"We didn't have enough jerseys from last year. We only had eight players last year, this year we have 12 players," women's head coach Vinny Maloney said. Maloney went on to say that the problem is in the process of being resolved.

"We've ordered replacement uniforms. The greens (road) arrived on Friday, and hopefully the whites (home) will be here by the start of second semester," Maloney said.

According to Maloney, the women's team is in its last year with their current uniforms.

"We're due for new uniforms next year. The school is on a four-year rotation for team uniforms, and we're in the last year with these uniforms," Maloney said. Fortunately, he said that his team does have enough uniforms to go around for both at home and on the road.

Upcoming Events

Basketball: 1/8 vs. Southern Maine Community College; women @ 5 p.m., men @ 7 p.m.; 1/11: men vs. Southern Virginia University, 7 p.m.; 1/12: women vs. Mass. College of Liberal Arts, 2 p.m.; 1/23 vs. Johnson State College; women @ 5:30 p.m., men @ 7:30 p.m.

Hockey: 2/1 vs. Daniel Webster College, 8:15 p.m.; 2/9 vs. Alumni, 3:30 p.m.

Home basketball games held in the Stannard Gymnasium. Home hockey games held at the Fenton Chester Arena, across from Lyndon Institute. Schedule subject to change.

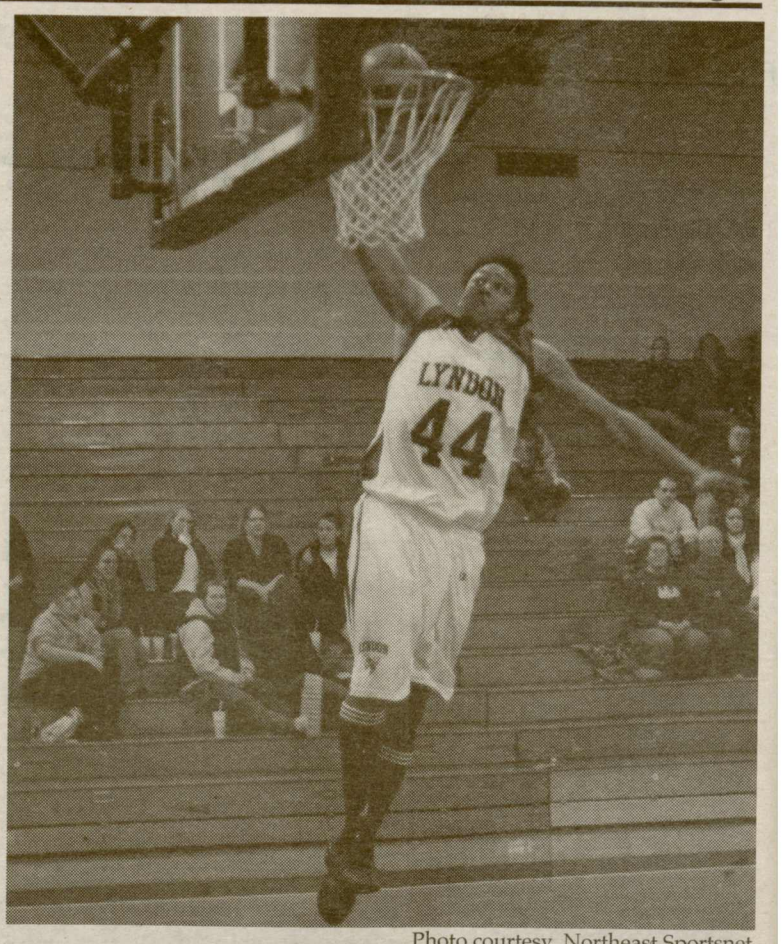


Photo courtesy Northeast Sportsnet

Kali Stoddard dunks in two of his 20 points last Sunday against Paul Smith's College. Lyndon State won 83-64 and will head into the semester break with two wins in their last three games.

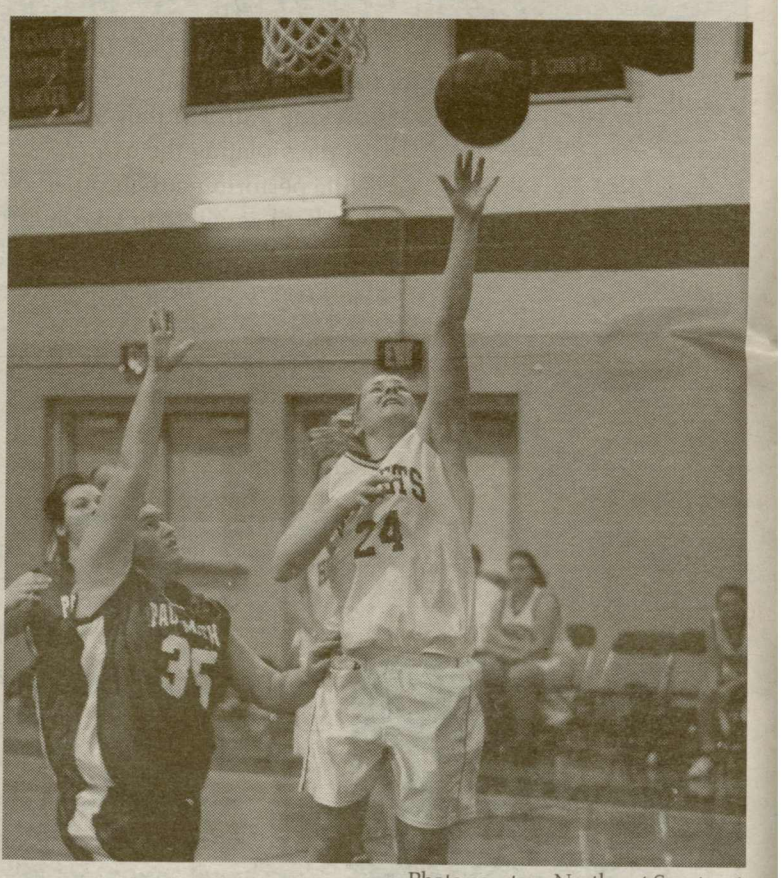


Photo courtesy Northeast Sportsnet

Jen White lays up two of her seventeen points in the Lady Hornets' 109-21 blowout win over Paul Smith's College. The Lady Hornets have won six of their last seven games and head into the semester break with a 6-3 record.

Getting back in the game: preventing common sports injuries

By Lauren Potter
Special to the Critic

The Lyndon State College's athletic training room is well equipped for the common injuries received through sports on campus. Prevention is the ultimate goal but Lyndon's athletic trainer is on duty to help get those athletes that are injured back in the game.

The most common injuries to college athletes involve knees and ankles, according to Lyndon State College's Athletic Trainer, Peter Guilfoyle. In his work with Lyndon's student-athletes Guilfoyle usually sees ligament sprains and muscle tears. Muscle tears can happen from overuse or strain. Sprains often occur when weight is thrown quickly from one side of the body to the other by making quick turns and other sudden movements.

Guilfoyle said prevention of sports injuries is sport specific, but he said the best way to avoid such injuries is to be physically prepared for whatever sport you are participating in. Making sure you have proper mobility of joints and muscles will allow your body to compensate for strain put on them though sports.

As far as treating any injury, Guilfoyle said it is very injury dependent, but ice, rest, and compression are the basic treatments that will benefit most injuries. More traumatic injuries, like ACL tears (Anterior Cruciate Ligament in the knee), require surgery to be repaired, and a long rehabilitation process to get back to playing shape.

After sustaining an injury, the Lyndon State training room offers a number of treatment options and facilities for getting athletes back on their feet. In addition to having an athletic trainer in the office 40 hours a week, the training room houses two whirlpools that help relax muscles and regain sensation to an injured area.

The training room also has an ultrasound machine. The machine sends high frequency sound though a gel into the skin and soft tissues of the body causing them to vibrate at a high speed. The friction of the vibration creates heat in the tissues and helps the healing process. The ultrasound machine is usually used for soft tissue, overuse types of injures, Guilfoyle said.

Electrical stimulation to help facilitate the healing processes is available to help control spasms. Guilfoyle explained that electrical stimulation is usually used in muscle re-education or rehabilitation type training for pain modulation, often after surgery or a serious injury.

There is also an ice machine and a hydroculator, a machine for moist hot packs, in the training room for either heat or ice therapy.

The training facilities at Lyndon State are primarily for varsity athletes, Guilfoyle said, as well as some club and intramural sport injuries, but the college "does not have enough staff to take care of everyone." Guilfoyle said he does see occasional non-athletic injuries, often on referral from an orthopedist.

The training room hours are posted on the outside of the door each week, and Guilfoyle is at all athletic home games caring for Lyndon athletes as well as visiting teams.

What's the buzz? The latest news on your Lyndon State Hornets

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

Women's guard Elizabeth Hall and men's forward Joe Visker have been named Lyndon State's Athletes of the Week for the week ending Dec. 10.

Last weekend, Hall had 15 points and two steals as the Lady Hornets pulled out a 68-64 win at New England College. The next day, Hall had 12 points, five steals and five assists as the Hornets blew out Paul Smith's, 109-21. Hall is averaging four assists and nearly seven points per game.

Visker had 20 points and eight boards against New England College. He followed that up with 22 points and nine rebounds against Paul Smith's. Visker is averagin almost 14 points and six rebounds a game.

The Hornets will be very busy over the holiday break, as the teams will be playing six games each before the second semeester starts.

Men's guard Andrew Longley will be out for at least three more weeks with a torn calf muscle. Longley says that he hopes to return for the games over break.

The Critic

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Last Satruday AMS held its annual winter ball. See photos inside

Pg.4

New smoking policy takes effect

By Nathaniel Champagne
Critic Staff

Students around Lyndon State's campus will notice the signs informing them of the newly enacted smoking policy.

Smoking is no longer allowed on campus except for designated areas such as the parking lots.

"It's not going to stop us," said Sue, a smoker, when asked about the smoking ban.

There is no fine for smoking on campus according to George Hacking, director of public safety.

This isn't to say that there won't be one but simply that Jonathan Davis, director of Residential Life, has yet to decide how much the fine should be.

"I'm worried," Natalie, a non-smoker, said. Smoking in the courtyard is a social experience, forcing the drunk kids who smoke into the parking lots is just asking for trouble."

Members of the LSC Health and Safety Committee formed the new policy. The policy was approved by LSC President Carol Moore.

Donna Dalton, dean of Academic and Student Affairs, did not sit on the Health and Safety Committee but was able to comment on the issue.

The idea behind limiting smoking to the parking lots is to cut down on second hand smoke and litter caused by cigarette butts, Dalton said.

Aside from the change in location as to where people can smoke, little else is different in regards to how the policy is enforced.

Public Safety does not have the personnel to create a smoking patrol. If they spot people violating the ban while performing their other duties, they will then take action.

Prior to the new policy going into effect, there were concerns of vandalism incidents in the parking lot rising due to more people going there to smoke.

There haven't been any reported cases of vandalism related to the new smoking policy since being put into effect on Jan. 1

Photo by Keith Whitcomb Jr.

The old location outside of the Roger's dormatory for the smoking hut. It was moved via forklift over the winter break by maintenance out to the Stonehenge parking lot so that smokers will have some shelter from the wind blowing across the lot.

Photo by Keith Whitcomb Jr.

Chancellor Robert Clarke announces that he will retire in 2009

Due to some of his decisions, some faculty approve of his leaving more so than others

By Catherine Story
Critic Staff

Recently the Vermont State College Chancellor, Robert Clarke, declared that he would be retiring at the end of the 2008-09 school year.

During his tenure Clarke has been liked and disliked by faculty members.

"We always got along," said James Bozeman mathematics chairperson, "although I did not always agree on contractual issues."

Bozeman said that in previous years Clarke had supported a contract change for faculty of Vermont State colleges removing their early retirement option.

"It took a few years of fighting to get the early retirement back," Bozeman said.

Bozeman still disagrees with the outcome of the fight but is happy that the faculty who were tenured at the time are still able to choose an early retirement.

"He has done some good," said Bozeman, " In recent years he has become more student and faculty oriented."

Recently a group of Vermont public schools went before the Vermont legislature in an attempt to get an 8 percent increase in funding. Clarke supported these faculty members.

The Governor is only offering a 2.5 percent increase in funding which may not be enough to keep up with inflation.

Richard Moye, professor of English, had a different opinion of Robert Clarke.

"Retiring now is one of the slimier moves of Robert Clarke," Moye said.

Robert Clarke will be taking advantage of the early retirement option that he attempted to remove from faculty contracts said Moye.

"Professors in Vermont state colleges don't get paid very well," Moye said.

When LSC was looking for a full time Philosophy professor they had an applicant who had a PhD in his field, was fluent in six languages and conversant in twelve. The school could only offer him a $27,000 salary.

"We used the early retirement option to help rope people in," Moye said, "It's not easy to get people to move here."

After a professor earns their PhD they're usually getting a little older. It's rare for them to retire at 55.

Many of the faculty that were hired with this early retirement option in their contracts do not have it. Only faculty who were tenured at the time will receive the early retirement option.

"Untenured faculty ought to be upset," said Moye, "They were hired with that bait."

"I don't think Clarke has done anything to improve Vermont," Moye said.

Moye said that Clarke has hurt Vermont more than he has helped.

"Alienating faculty who are the heart and soul of an educational institution," is how Moye describes Robert Clarke.

Vandalism on campus

By Joey Stewart
Special toThe Critic

Several instances of vandalism in the form of graffiti have been spotted on the walls of LSC on the walls and doors of many of the campus restrooms, specifically the men's rooms.

A large display of this graffiti is done in black spray paint outside of Vail on the concrete wall by the mail room entrance.

The graffiti, in all of its different locations, is assumed to have been done by the same person based on the fact that the writings were all done in a similar handwriting and most of them are of the same word, "Theo," George Hacking, director of Public Safety.

"I think that some people believe it's art. I think it's visual pollution when it is the destruction or damage of public property, and it should not be allowed to continue," Donna Edwards, Library Circulation Supervisor, said.

Campus security is in the process of investigating these "tagging" incidents and is confident that they will find the perpetrator, Hacking said.

"This school will bend over backwards to help people express themselves, and all they have to do is find the right avenues to ask those questions, and this person has obviously chosen not to do that," Hacking said.

"So instead, they have gone out and committed a crime, which they can be charged with criminally through the Vermont State Statutes, but I am not saying that that is going to happen.

What we need to do is find this person and find out why they are doing it, and educate all people involved that this is not the right thing to do."

Some of the damage that has been done, especially to the wooden bathroom doors, will not be a cheap fix.

They will likely have to be sanded down and then revarnished because the graffiti was done in permanent marker and has already set into the wood, Hacking said.

Many of the students have voiced there own opinions about this situation, but most of them agree that it seems childish.

"I think it's an egotistical, improper outlet for self expression," Eric Downing, a sophomore, said."It's great that they are expressing themselves, but they shouldn't deface public property," Sara Morehouse, a senior, stated.

"I think that it's sad that people feel compelled to do this. It really doesn't mean anything, it just annoyed people, and obviously this guy has some talent and maybe he could find somewhere else to exhibit his art," Garret Nelson, Library Director, said.

Photo by Joey Stewart
Graffiti dicovered in the Alexander Twilight Theater's men's bathroom

Photo by Joey Stewart
On the wall outside of the mail room in Vail

Change to building plan at Lyndon State

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.
Critic Editor

The plan to construct a new academic building on campus has changed once again.

The original plan was to attach the building to the Harvey Academic Center, but after some soil testing, it was found that the project would have to be scaled down in order to stay within the $10 million budget set for the project Wayne Hamilton, dean of Administration, said.

The new plan is to put the building between the Vail parking lot and the Vail building itself, Hamilton said. The plan is to have it completed by August of 2009.

Money for the project is coming from the $13 million bond the VSC Board of Trustees issued last semester. To pay off the bond, LSC students will have to pay an extra $300 per semester starting on the fall of 2008.

Activity near the main Vail entrance is likely to disrupted. "We recognize it's going to disrupt some of the traffic flow," Hamilton said, speaking of vehicle as well as foot traffic.

The committee in charge of the project has yet to set a plan to manage the disruption but Hamilton said "we think it can be done."

Some of the pine trees in between Vail and the parking lot will have to be removed, Hamilton said. The smaller apple trees might be able to be moved elsewhere, and while part of the stone wall—which used to be part of the Vail Mansion—may be removed, the desire is to incorporate part of it into an outdoor courtyard, Hamilton said.

The parking lot itself is due for some repair work as well, but will be done in two parts.

The first part will be to repair the utilities beneath the lot, such as gas, sewer, and electrical lines. The lot will then be left alone while construction crews work on the new building, Hamilton said. After the building is complete, the parking lot will be topped off.

Aside from the location, the overall plan for the building hasn't changed much. With three floors, the first one being level with the current student center, three departments will be moved into the new structure: Exercise Science on the ground floor, Business on the second, and Meteorology on the third, Hamilton said.

An observation deck to be used by Meteorology students is slated for the third floor, while the Business department plans to benefit from being close to the Business Office in Administration. "There's a good synergy with other departments," Hamton said.

Clear Text has come to LSC this Spring semester

By Ben Holbrook
Managing Editor

LSC's emergency warning system, Clear Text, is now being implemented in order to warn students quickly using cell phones if there was a problem.

Clear Text is a warning system that is able to notify a large number of people quickly if there is an emergency. LSC uses Clear Text to send messages to your cell phone but it is not limited to only phones. Clear Text can be used with email and desktop, according to the Clear Text user guide. This system is only one component of the safety procedures on campus, said George Hacking, director of public safety.

At the moment only about 100 students have signed up for Clear Text notifications, said Hacking. To sign up for Clear Text you can go to http://lyndonstate.cleartxt.com/. The sign up process is very simple and only requires your name, email address, cell phone carrier service, and your cell phone number.

Besides using Clear Text, LSC also uses a phone tree to notify specific individuals who then alert classrooms as safety permits. Clear Text has limitations since not everybody uses a cell phone and often times professors require students to turn off any cell phones during class. The Clear Text system is also not compatible with track phones.

LSC chose to use Clear Text because of price, said Hacking. The program that LSC chose allows for 10 uses, which costs $250. If the school used five or six warnings then the package would be upgraded however, "we don't expect to use all 10," said Hacking.

LSC would only use Clear Text for actual emergencies although other colleges use it for all notifications like class cancellations.

"At the end of the year we may re-evaluate it," said Hacking. Systems like Clear Text need to be evaluated every six to twelve months, said Hacking. Ideally Hacking would, "love to have a loud speaker system around campus."

A loudspeaker system would cost between $50,000 and $75,000, which is too expensive at the moment. The school would look into other things that can piggyback on existing infrastructure.

Since Clear Text is only one component of an emergency system, the most likely next step would be to put speakers up around campus, said Hacking. A built in video system would also be a possibility. The school's biggest challenge is trying to stay current on what is available and what can be afforded.

Holy Sheet

Sex columnist returns with sex tips

By Jordan Royer
Sex columnist

Sick of the same old boring bump and grind. Tried all the crazy positions I have mentioned in previous articles but just can't keep the sparks flying? Well, maybe I have some answers to spice things up a little.

This week is stilted a little towards what women can do to get their man to make it worth their while. Having sex in the morning or at night, or maybe both? Try a little daytime dirty and that just may give you the change you are looking for. Call your partner up and tell them what they're missing since they're not at home. Boyfriend at class for the day or they're sitting around campus wasting time? Give him a call and tell him you're waiting for him for a little noontime nooky, or that you are wearing something sexy and you wish he was there. Get his taste buds tingling and when he shows up he might just rock your world.

So you are in the same sexual routine and you really want to switch it up. Why not try a little role reversal or role playing. If you are in a relationship where your partner always takes charge when it comes to sexual relations, switch it up, and even better, don't tell them. Next time you are in the mood, don't wait around for them to also get in the mood, take control. For the ladies, just grab your man and pin him down or get stern when you tell him what is about to happen. If he is use to being the boss it will catch him off guard and just may arouse a different part of him. As far as role play is concerned, just explore. Be someone you have always wanted to be, whether it's the nice little teacher or the sexy stripper. Don't know how to bring it up or introduce it to your partner? Try dropping hints. Leave certain clothes out that make him wonder/question why it is there or say things that get the wheels turning in their head.

Probably my favorite way to feel naughty and get turned on is some dirty talk in public. I don't mean be blatant with your talk, but tell your partner just what is going through that horny little head of yours. Sorry, a little pun intended. Whisper what you want to do to them while you touch their thighs or rub their shoulders. Tell them what you have planned for when you get home. Best part about this is where you do it. Don't tease someone where it is easy to escape, do it when they least expect it. Make them wait until class is done or until your parents leave from an unexpected visit. Be sneaky and sensual and drag it out as much as you can. By the time it happens they will most likely be so built up inside you will have to hang on tight.

It is easier said than done, switching up your sex style that is, but why not give it a try. I will leave you with this fun little bit- Sex is like math, you add the place, subtract the clothes, divide the legs and pray you don't multiply. Oh yeah, one more thing, be safe!

Position of the Week-
Downward Driver

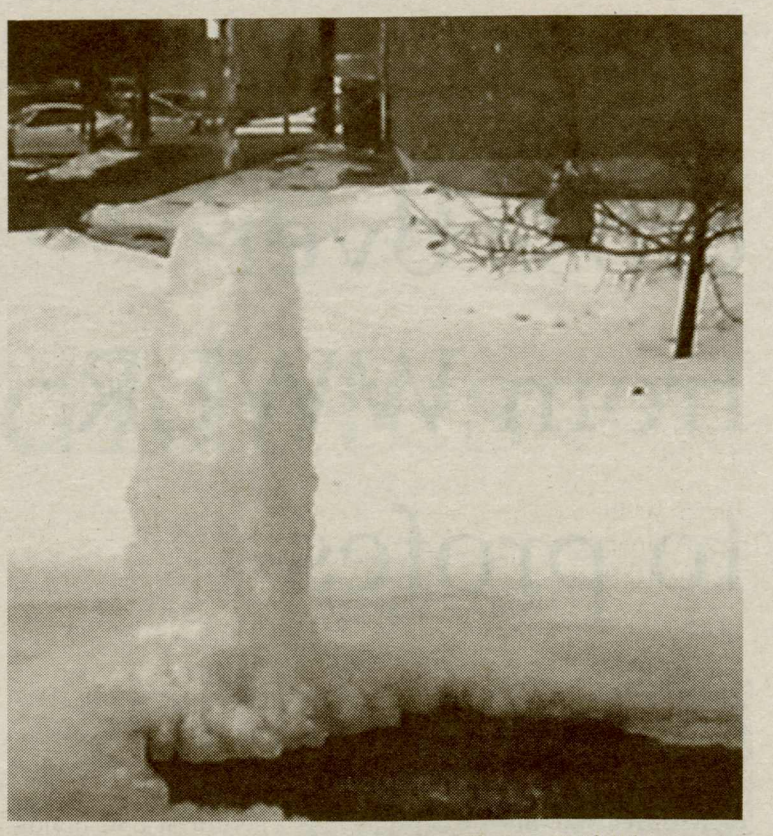


Photo by Keith Whitcomb Jr.

LSC's annual ice sculpture has formed outside of the Library and Academic Center. Its size fluctuates from year to year.

Photo by Keith Whitcomb Jr.

Mysterious shoes hang in trees outside of Arnold and Bailey Residence Halls. Luckily the feet weren't attached.

The Three Count

John Cena: A message to the haters

By Timothy Kemp
Critic columnist

This past Sunday night was the 21st annual Royal Rumble match, in which 30 of the top performers in the WWE compete for an opportunity to challenge for the championship of their choice at the main event of Wrestle Mania 24.

It was a very entertaining match, but the shock of the night was the number thirty entrance of John Cena, returning from injury to win the contest.

When his entrance music started playing in front of the sold out Madison Square Garden, the roof almost blew off the arena with even the haters of Cena cheering for him, even if it was just for a moment.

Surprisingly the next day, the majority of the internet wrestling community (IWC), was going ballistic about how "John Cena Sucks" and "he ruined a good match."

This hatred from some wrestling fans is not new to Cena as it has been going on for the past couple years.

His main fan base consists of little kids, teenage girls and adult women.

The question that I would like to ask the "nay-sayers" is what is it about John Cena that you despise so much? What has he really done to make the hatred flow through your veins?

I am going to address some of the recent dislikes of Cena, and show you how I think it's just ridiculous.

"Cena can't wrestle. He uses the same five moves to end every match. It's too predictable."

Although I will admit that his move list isn't at the level of a Dean Malenko, Chris Benoit or Eddie Guerrero, but that doesn't mean he is a bad wrestler.

Just think about how Hulk Hogan was in the late 1980s and early '90s. He finished just about every match by 'Hulking' up, pointing the finger, three punches to the head, a big boot to the head, and a leg drop.

Hogan did that for years and people believe his the greatest of all time, and rightfully so. Why is it that Cena does the same type of thing and people think it's a disgrace? I don't get it.

"Cena's title reigns go on too long. Vince keeps the title on him so he can sell merchandise. He never gives anyone else an opportunity.'

Let me just say that the longest WWE Championship reign that Cena had was just last year, and it was only a year and a month. Going back to Hogan, he held the same title for four years in the '80s.

I personally think that people's attention spans nowadays are a lot less than they were twenty years ago, and they want things to be spontaneous.

However, if you look at the little kids in the audience, they love John Cena. He is their Hulk Hogan, and they want to see him as champion.

"Cena's spinner belt is an insult to the legacy to the championship."

A couple questions come to mind for you haters: was it a disgrace when Stone Cold Steve Austin had his Smokin' Skull Championship belt? Was it a disgrace when Ted Dibiase created his own Million Dollar Championship? Was it a disgrace when Tazz created his own FTW Championship in the original ECW? Of course not.

Sometimes a championship is made in order to fit a character, or even simply to sell merchandise.

It doesn't devalue the title because it's still a representative of the legacy. Just look at the spinner belt, and tell me what is really wrong with it? It still says WWE Champ and tt has the traditional eagle on the top.

I honestly believe that you haters out there don't like John Cena because he's different. He is not like champions you've seen in the past, so you "boo" him.

However, what you have to realize is that whether you love him or hate him, he gets a reaction out of everyone in the audience, and that is the most important quality to have as a champion competitor.

John Cena's legacy has only just begun, and I see him have a very bright future.

LSC students cross over from WWLR to professional radio

By Jennifer Ingram
Critic Staff

At Lyndon State College there is great talent all around us, and some of the great talent comes through the air waves of the radio on a daily or weekly basis. Many of you may hear of student James Osler also known as the "Oz" on numerous radio stations such as Lyndon State's radio station WWLR 91.5 or Nassau Broadcasting station for WIKE 1490 and WMOO 92.1. Osler is a junior at Lyndon State College from Old Greenwich, Connecticut. "I have loved radio since he was a kid more than anyone else," Osler said. As part of being an on-air talent/ DJ for WIKE 1490 he fills in for the local sports, such as the Red Sox, Patriots and as the board operator. When he is broadcasting for LSC's WWLR 91.5 he is the traffic director. According to James LSC has done a great deal for him as a club, it has given him first hand experience and has surrounded him with people that have the same passion as he does. Osler mentioned that he would love to continue his passion in the radio industry after graduation and work for 106.9 WCC-FM The Rock in Hartford, CT or for 92.3 K-Rock in New York City, or be the next Eddie Trunk who has a Friday night heavy metal show on Q104.3 in New York. "He wants to be happy and follow his passion of radio broadcasting," said Osler. His dream job would be to own his own heavy metal/ hard rock radio station in a major city.

Another familiar voice that is heard over the air waves every weekend is Josh Webber, or known on the radio as Greg Webber. He is a senior at LSC majoring in Meteorology originally from Bridgewater, Mass. According to Webber, he's always had an obsession with radio, whether it was the kid who kept calling the stations until they finally blocked him because they didn't play his song, or it was trying to be caller number 10 to win a prize, music has been a big part of his life. When asked how he got involved in radio broadcasting he said, "I started actually DJ'ing when a friend of mine Michael Swan had a radio show freshman year, it seemed sort of fun, I heard him on the radio, was interested in it, so I went down and joined him on-air a few times and then decided to get a show of my own, here at Lyndon."

Webber is following his passion on being a radio broadcaster. About a year ago he began working at KIX 105.5 in St. Johnsbury when they were looking for a weekend jock to do their country radio show in the mornings. Through working at KIX 105.5 he has learned quite a bit and he contributes that to just being thrown into the job.

Although Webber is meteorology major his dream job would be to become the General Manager which would give him an opportunity to work in all aspects of the radio field such as, finances, communications and broadcasting.

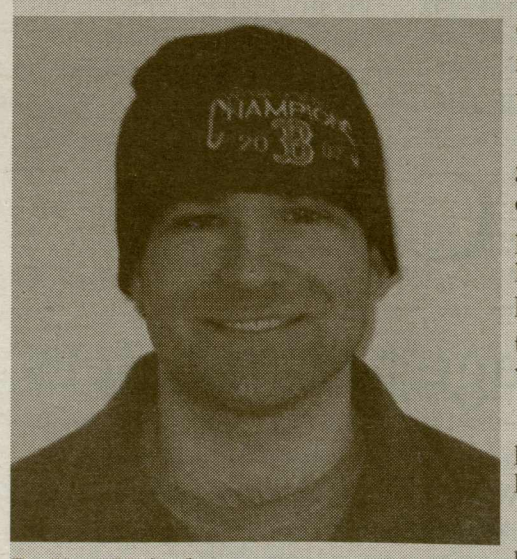
"Being apart of the radio allows me to be myself, and to have a good time," said Webber

James Osler Photo by Jennifer Ingram

Photo courtesy of Hayley LaPoint

AMS Winter Ball, January 2008. Above left to right: Andrew Little, Kristen Andersen, Michael Swan, Steve LaVoie, Hayley LaPoint, Brandon Wholey
Below left to right: Andrew Little, Kristen Andersen, Emily Cherrier, Kyle Doyle, Carmella Reiger, Steve LaVoie, Chris Rogers, Brandon Wholey, Julie Deslandes, Robert Ryan

The Enviromental Corner



By Kurt Heinchon
Special to the Critic

Have you ever wanted a way to save money and help our environment at the same time? Well, here's your chance! On the week of February 11th – 15th, LSC will be hosting its 2nd Annual Change A Light Campaign! Last year, we exchanged over 300 regular light bulbs for the energy saving CFL's. That's over $13,500 of your money saved as well as preventing 120,000 pounds of greenhouse gas emissions by a simple change of the light! This year we hope to do even better. BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Why use compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs)?

- They can be used almost anywhere in your home
- They use approximately 66% less energy than an incandescent bulb
- Last up to 6 -10 times longer than a standard incandescent bulb

Here's what to do:

1. Look at the schedule provided below as to when you can exchange your bulb.

Note: Commuters will also get a chance to make a difference too!

2. Carefully remove any incandescent light bulbs (your standard light bulb) from your fixtures and wait for your scheduled time to exchange the bulbs. Please only remove the light bulbs that are from your own personal light fixtures.

3. Try out the Light Bike in the Student Center and Dining Hall, starting on February 11th, and see just how much energy it takes to power a CFL vs. the incandescent bulb.

What is a contest without prizes? The winning residence hall (or commuters) will receive a free night of bowling at the Gold Crown Lanes in St. Johnsbury. There will also be a White Birch tree planted in Stonehenge in the Spring with a special plaque acknowledging their exceptional efforts to save our planet.

Date	Time	Location
Monday February 11th	11:30-1:00 PM 6:00 PM	Dining Hall/Rita Bole Complex Wheelock
Tuesday February 12th	11:30-1:00 PM (Commuters) 6:00 PM	Student Center Arnold/Bayley
Wednesday February 13th	11:30-1:00 PM 6:00 PM	Dining Hall Whitelaw/Crevecoeur
Thursday February 14th	11:30-1:00 PM (Commuters) 6:00 PM	Student Center Poland/Rogers
Friday February 15th	11:30-1:00 PM	Open for anyone who missed their day for exchange

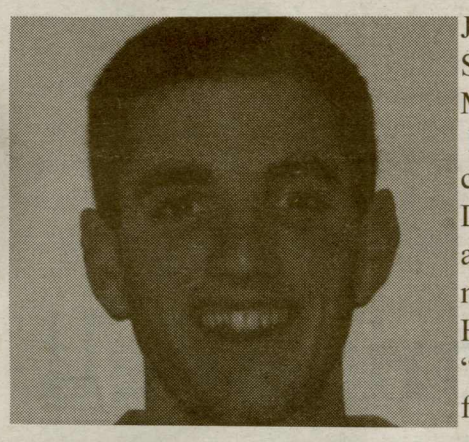
Time for America to make a decision

LSC students choose ideal presidential candidates

John McCain

Ashley Giddix
Sophomore
Television Studies
John McCain. She likes McCain because he is the only candidate who knows what he wants. "He also is willing to admit his mistakes and realize what are his strengths and weaknesses."

Hillary Clinton

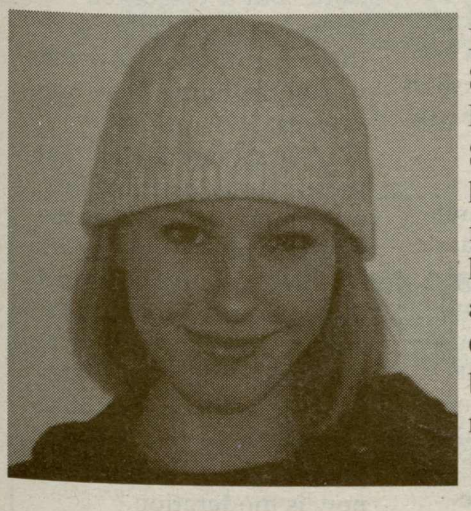


John Hickey
Sophomore
Meteorology
He likes Hillary because she is a strong Democratic candidate and it is time for a democrat to be in office. He also believes that, "she will make a great first lady president."

The Pope

Nathan Godin
Senior
Psychology
"Because of my religion, I'd like to see the Pope, or a bishop, or someone who represents the church."

Oprah



Kerrin Jeromin
Senior
Meteorology
She explained that she had not been following the campaigns. "I haven't really thought about it enough. Oprah sounds like a better choice than any right now."

People, politics & primaries

By Brian Howe
Special to The Critic

As we gear up for the presidential election Lyndon State College students are discussing issues that they think are the most important.

Matt DiPirro, a sophomore majoring in Meteorology said, "Job security is my biggest concern in the upcoming election."

Mike Lang a sophomore majoring in Television Studies said, "The War in Iraq is among my greatest concern." While, Mike Hannan a sophomore in Computer Information Systems said, "I want to see open minded candidates take care of critical issues."

As of now Barak Obama leads the Democrats with 63 delegates, Hillary Clinton trails with forty-eight. McCain is definitely the favored Republican with 95 delegates; Romney has 67, while Huckabee has 26.

Tuesday twenty-two states will hold primaries.

Spiderman

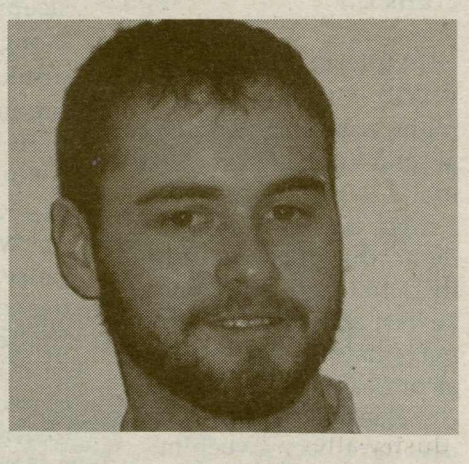
Ian Weber
Freshmen
Weber didn't know much about any of the candidates running and refused to choose one. He did however say that Spiderman would be an ideal president.
"There would be no crime and a man flying around," Weber said.

John McCain

Craig Flint
Sophomore
Television Studies
"I'm a Republican. (McCain is) the kind of guy, in my opinion, who has been in the game for a while. He knows foreign policy, was a POW, and served his country. He knows what it's like to be at war."

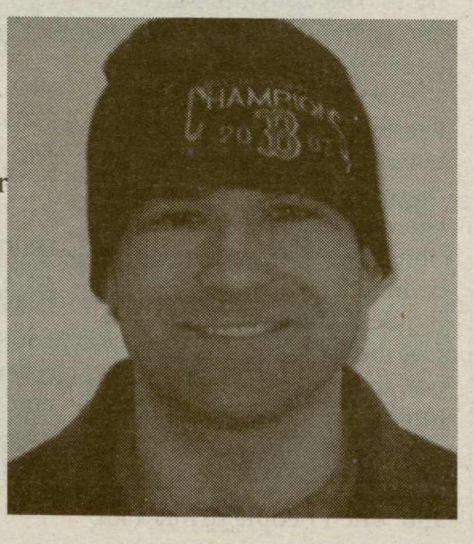
Clinton or Obama

Kyle Dubreuil
Senior
"It's like a bumper sticker I saw," Dubreuil said, "I'm too poor to vote Republican." "America can't afford to have another Republican President." Dubreuil said.



Barry Sanders

Kurt Heinchon
Senior
Environmental Science
"If Barry Sanders ran I would probably vote for him because he seems to know what the people want. He seems to know what's coming in the future especially with the environmental issues as big as they are."



Anxiety and drinking in college

By April R. Ford
Arkansas Traveler
(U. Arkansas)

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark.(U-WIRE) - Awkward social situations and heavy drinking are familiar features of college life for many students, but research by one University of Arkansas professor has shed new light on the relationship between social anxiety and drinking problems.

Lindsay S. Ham, assistant professor of psychology, collaborated with researchers at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to explore the reasons behind drinking and how they relate to social anxiety.

"My interest is in explaining the relationship between social anxiety and social anxiety disorder with alcoholism and problem alcohol use," Ham said.

Social anxiety disorder, or social phobia, consists of a persistent fear of negative evaluation in social situations, according to the American Psychiatric Association. Individuals with the disorder are twice as likely to develop drinking problems than the general population, though the connection between social anxiety and drinking among college students is not clearly understood.

"There had been limited research in college students," Ham said. "A lot of researchers were assuming that college students were the same as adults who weren't in college, and I guess I'm saying that that's not necessarily true because college is a unique environment."

Findings in previous studies are what prompted Ham and her colleagues to give the issue a closer look.

"When I started looking at college students, I got these funny findings saying that people with social anxiety might even be drinking less," Ham said. "And that was surprising since there is a dangerously high rate when you look at diagnoses of social phobia and alcohol use disorders."

One way to explain this, Ham said, was to look at the reasons and ways a person is drinking, in order to find out why some people with social anxiety drink while others do not.

By examining the reasons or motives behind college students' drinking, Ham and her colleagues concluded that socially anxious individuals who drink to cope or deal with negative feelings and problems develop higher rates of regular alcohol consumption and abuse.

Students with higher levels of social anxiety could be at a greater risk to develop alcohol-related problems if their drinking motives involve coping with negative emotion or attempting to reduce anxiety, according to the study, which was published in the "Journal of Anxiety Disorders."

The results were somewhat surprising to the researchers, who had expected conformity to play a bigger role in drinking by socially anxious individuals.

"People who are socially anxious often want to fit in and not stick out and be noticed," Ham said. "So we thought that maybe they would drink more for that reason."

To a certain extent, individuals who drank to conform or fit in did drink more, Ham added, though they weren't developing problems in the same way as those who drank to cope.

"It seems that perhaps the people who are drinking to fit in — they have a little bit, just to sort of get by that peer pressure," Ham said. "So they're actually ending up drinking in safe ways, even though they're drinking to fit in, which intuitively doesn't sound healthy to people."

Ham and her colleagues used a system of questionnaires to evaluate the drinking habits of 239 undergraduate students, nearly half of whom were in their first year of college.

Participants were asked to rate descriptions of reasons they might drink in a given week as well as the frequency of their drinking.

"It might ask you how often you drink to have a fun time," Ham said. "And you'd give a rating of how often you do that."

Ninety percent of study participants were Caucasian, Ham said, and though she plans to improve on diversity in future research. And while the sample included nearly equal numbers of men and women, the researchers chose not to divide the results based on gender.

However, Ham is examining differences in drinking between men and women in another study, she said.Using the research to identify at-risk individuals could be the next step and it is something Ham has started to pursue, she said.

"We can do things that can at least reduce dangerous drinking and potentially identify people who might be at very high risk for drinking problems," Ham said. "Maybe we could identify those students before it gets to a level that could have negative consequences."

Red Bull and vodka don't mix well

By Kerianne Okie
Tufts Daily
(Tufts U.)

MEDFORD, Mass. (U-WIRE) - It's late Friday night, and after partying for several hours, fatigue sets in.

For some college students, this dilemma causes them to turn to one of the newest additions to the party-hard lifestyle: mixing alcohol and energy drinks.

These hyperactive cocktails have been sweeping college campuses and bars, appealing to many because they give drinkers the ability to consume more alcohol and remain on their feet later into the night.

Ian Wong, director of health education at Tufts University, explained that there are many risk factors surrounding the combination of alcohol and energy drinks.

Because drinkers do not feel the tiring effects of alcohol, they do not realize how intoxicated they actually are, Wong explained.

"Alcohol is a depressant, and when people drink a lot, one of the side effects is that they start getting tired, sleepy [and] lethargic," Wong said. "With the energy drinks, you don't feel that tiredness, so sometimes you think you're not that drunk ... but it doesn't mean that you're any more sober."

Wong is worried that because people may not realize they are drunk, they will continue to drink more.

"My concern is that a lot of people may not feel as intoxicated as they truly are and may be drinking a lot more than they ever would drink, because they don't feel the normal effects," he said.

Wong also explained that in low doses, alcohol can act as a stimulant before its depressant effects take hold.

"There's the biphasic response in alcohol," Wong said. "In low doses, alcohol feels like a stimulant ... so now [when you combine alcohol with energy drinks] you're having alcohol as a low-dose stimulant along with this high-dose stimulant."

Despite their risk factors, it is the extra stimulation and increased energy that attracts party-goers to highly-caffeinated drinks.

Sarah*, a Tufts freshman who wished to remain anonymous, said that she likes drinking alcohol with energy drinks because the mood-enhancing effects of alcohol seem to last longer — and while Wong explained that energy drinks can make students feel they need to drink more alcohol, Sarah said she felt drunk from consuming less alcohol.

"It was definitely not the same drunk as just soda and alcohol or juice and alcohol," she said. "It was a drunker drunk off of less alcohol for longer."

But Sarah added that although she enjoys the combination of drunkenness and a caffeine high, she realizes that it can be risky.

"When you're drunk off of energy drinks [and alcohol], it's really fun," she said. "But at the same time, you definitely don't feel as in-control."

Maggie*, another freshman who wished to remain anonymous, explained that she didn't feel as intoxicated as she actually was after mixing vodka with a Monster energy drink, but that she made social decisions that later showed her how drunk she'd been.

"I was a lot more comfortable walking around, because I probably didn't think I was as drunk," she said. "[When I combined the two], I saw my college counselor and I went up and hugged her kids, which probably wasn't a very good idea."

In addition to causing people to drink more alcohol, these combinations can seriously increase the risk of dehydration and raise body temperature, Wong explained.

"They're [both] diuretics," Wong said. "So that means that you're going to start urinating and losing water. You lose it with alcohol, and then you lose it with caffeine, so now because you're doubling this loss of fluids in a much quicker way, you can become dehydrated a lot faster than you realize."

Another risk posed by energy drink cocktails is that drinkers end up consuming not just excess alcohol, but far more caffeine than they regularly would.

Wong explained that because they are drinking more alcohol, people are, in turn, drinking far more energy drinks than they would in a normal setting.

"If you asked any student, 'Would you sit down and, within an hour or two hours, drink three or four [energy drinks]?' they'd probably say no," Wong said. "But if you asked them, 'would you drink three or four alcohol drinks within the hour?' they may say yes."

Wong emphasized that the greatest danger of this new trend is the excess to which people are doing it.

"A good number of college students are using these energy drinks ... and we also know there [are] some students who drink a lot of alcohol," Wong said. "The point about all of this right now is moderation."

"Instead of solving my puzzles, you can always white-out this entire page and call it a day. But leave the weather alone. Don't mess with met majors."

Teeth-Rotting Word Find

N	O	N	G	D	S	A	O	A	I	L	I	C	O	R	I	C	E	I	C	M	Q	J	Z	D
T	P	R	D	F	L	G	F	R	B	V	O	E	Y	O	M	J	Z	N	J	D	O	N	Y	Y
B	I	L	T	B	Y	R	O	O	S	E	B	J	K	H	E	E	G	N	B	L	T	J	K	N
M	U	G	Q	C	L	C	T	M	O	G	Y	U	B	O	K	X	H	H	L	E	V	I	J	Y
W	W	B	H	H	K	T	D	O	A	I	M	H	T	Z	Z	P	K	Y	E	F	R	U	A	S
F	M	B	Y	C	L	N	A	M	O	K	O	N	P	T	U	V	R	W	B	B	W	W	U	D
B	B	Q	A	E	A	H	Y	O	Q	L	M	K	C	M	E	A	S	J	N	U	Y	Z	T	I
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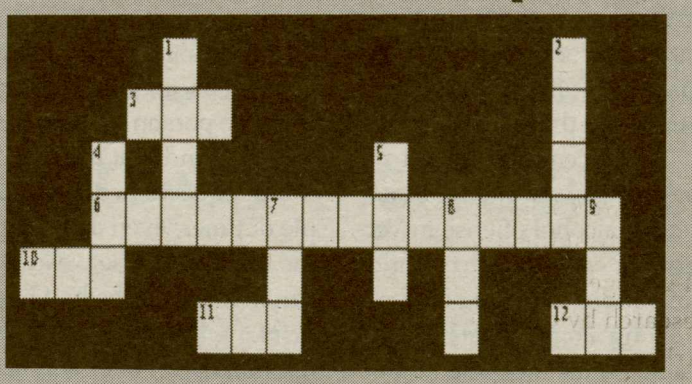
G	D	A	I	S	R	E	K	C	I	N	S	O	D	C	Y	J	F	T	L	C	T	Z	K	H
Y	P	H	R	H	S	W	J	F	K	X	B	H	H	C	H	E	W	I	N	G	G	U	M	C
S	T	Z	D	L	M	E	U	K	G	H	O	E	D	R	V	P	M	H	N	K	U	O	Z	T
H	K	W	X	D	M	W	Q	S	Q	M	R	T	U	Y	E	C	N	W	D	G	K	L	P	A
F	U	J	D	C	K	X	X	F	S	E	P	T	B	A	P	U	T	Y	I	H	E	V	O	P
B	G	X	Y	C	Z	N	U	S	X	S	J	B	L	J	F	K	D	T	K	D	M	R	D	R
I	S	H	R	E	E	S	E	S	P	I	E	C	E	S	Y	F	K	B	R	K	U	W	Q	U
D	F	N	D	N	U	N	S	P	S	K	I	T	T	L	E	S	H	P	Q	D	W	X	V	O
Z	F	Z	B	J	I	S	Y	K	Y	L	L	E	B	Y	L	L	E	J	W	N	B	R	V	S

Sweet Sour Patch Kids
M and M's Skittles
Jelly Belly Licorice

Butterfinger Milky Way Snickers
Reese's Pieces Jolly Rancher Bottlecaps
Chewing Gum Rock Candy Delicious

Club Me With a Spoon!



ACROSS
3. The club in which games such as "Earth Dawn" are played.
6. This club always puts on a good show.
10. Without this club, the campus would be very uneventful.
11. This club basically oversees all the other ones.
12. The members of this club are trying to green up the college.

DOWN
1. This mysterious club seems to be about the paranormal.
2. Number important to this club: 91.5
4. Believe it or not, there is a club devoted to graphic design.
5. The only club that allows calling other members "n00bs"
7. The club that strives for equality regardless of sexual preferences.
8. Weather nuts love this club.
9. These students will change THE WORLD!

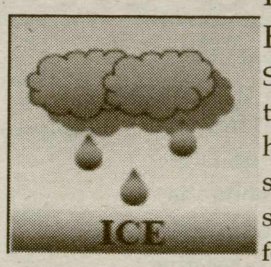
WEATHER CORNER

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN BURLINGTON HAS ISSUED A WINTER STORM WARNING, WHICH IS IN EFFECT FROM 12 PM FRIDAY TO 5 AM EST SATURDAY.

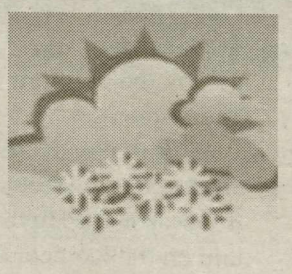
STUDENT METEOROLOGIST: Eric Guillot

This warning indicates the potential for six or more inches of snow in association with this storm. The precipitation will begin today around lunchtime, initially as snow (up to three inches of accumulation is possible) and then changing over to a mixture of sleet and/or freezing rain by the evening hours. Traveling conditions will be especially treacherous this evening as this snow transitions into an icy mix. There exists the possibility of up to a half-inch of ice accumulation overnight. Snow showers linger on tomorrow morning, but clear out by mid-afternoon to give way to a much quieter weekend.

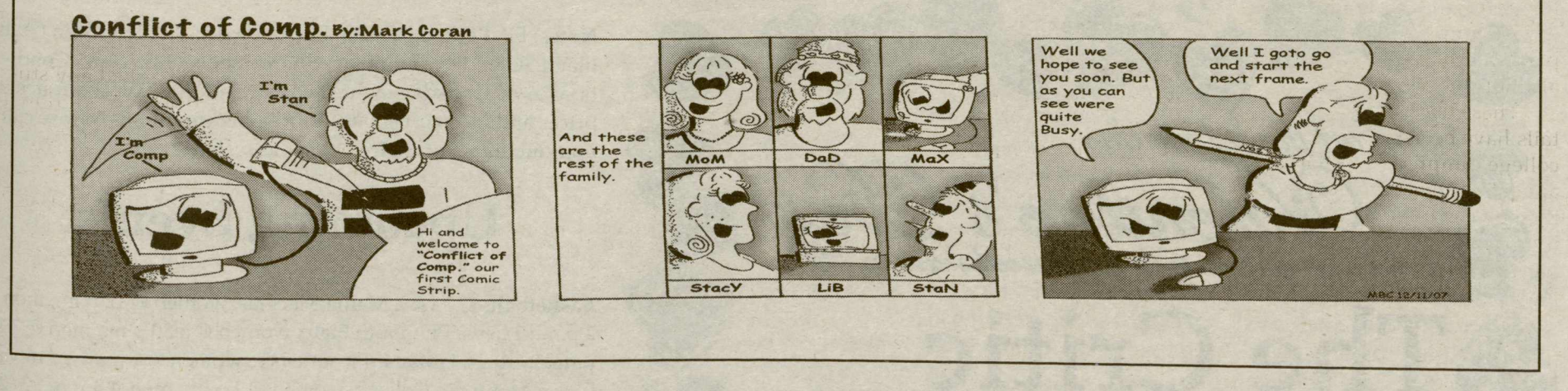
FRIDAY AFTERNOON
High: 28-34 F
Snow beginning after 1pm, changing over to sleet and/or freezing rain by early evening. Winds should pick up to 10-14 mph with higher gusts likely.



FRIDAY NIGHT
High: 28-34 F
Sleet and/or freezing rain through most of the nighttime hours, changing over to snow showers a few hours before sunrise. Warmer than the past few nights with west winds calming to 7-10 mph.



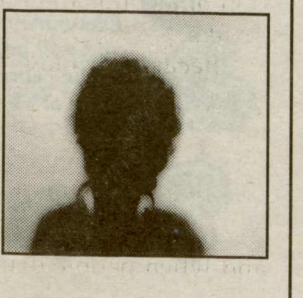
SATURDAY
High: 32-36 F
Snow showers linger for the morning hours, then partial clearing gives way to mostly cloudy skies. Winds 10-14 mph.



STUMPED!?

For solutions to this week's puzzles as well as last week's, visit our site on the Web at lyndonstate.edu/critic. Does anybody actually read this box? Godfrey Ablewhite. I could start putting funny things in here, if only I were an accomplished humor writer. Also, if you're really, really good, I might give you your Sudoku back.

Puzzles Generated by Overlord of Fun.
No, this is NOT a picture of me. Let this be a lesson to all: Clear the photobooth folder when you're done playing.



Hornets captain cited for underage drinking

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

A captain of the Lyndon State men's basketball team was cited for underage consumption following a home game over the holiday break.

Junior center Kali Stoddard-Imari was cited for his second alcohol offense in Vermont after state police found him among a group of people walking along Broad Street at 3 a.m. on the morning of January 9, following the Hornets' win over Southern Maine Community College. While Stoddard-Imari did blow numbers in a breathalyzer test, he believes there's more to the story than that.

"At first it was just my fiancée and I. Then a series of people left the house we were at. I was catching up with my future sister-in-law. She was about a block ahead of us," said Stoddard-Imari, adding that she was stopped by the undercover state trooper first.

"I told my mom about what happened, and she believed that I had been racially profiled," Stoddard-Imari said. He believes that he was profiled because he wasn't with the person who was first stopped, and that the state trooper questioned him a couple of times, even after he told the trooper that he wasn't driving because he had been drinking that night. He also felt that the trooper was acting very rude.

"I think my fiancée was lumped in with the other underage individuals so the trooper wouldn't have to write another report," Stoddard-Imari said. He added that his fiancée is over 21, which means that she could've gotten into trouble for serving alcohol to minors.

Stoddard-Imari said he resolved the situation by sitting down and apologizing to his coaches.

"I feel like I let everyone down as a captain on this team," Stoddard-Imari said. "I've decided to stay dry until my 21st birthday. It isn't that hard to do."

At the time, he felt that he was doing the right thing by catching up to his sister-in-law and talking to the state trooper instead of walking away from the situation.

"I'm not gonna leave my sister-in-law alone to talk to a cop," said Stoddard-Imari.

"He wasn't suspended because it happened off-campus," said Bill Johnson, assistant athletic director and assistant men's basketball coach. Johnson added that the school holds orientations for its athletes, as well as meetings for individual teams, where issues relating to alcohol, tobacco and drugs are addressed.

"It's a problem that isn't going away," Johnson said about alcohol and drug use on college campuses.

Johnson also said that athletes need to be discreet about the things they do.

"He (Stoddard-Imari) handled it very adult-like. He's a high-profile athlete, as a captain and an All-American. He's a local kid. We'd like to see Kali be a role model for kids in the area," Johnson said. He added that he also discussed the student-athlete expectations with Stoddard-Imari.

The student-athlete expectations include individual sections on the prohibition of the use of alcohol, tobacco and non-prescription drugs during team-related activities, such as traveling, games, practices and team get-togethers. The section on alcohol and drugs says that neither substance can be "possessed or consumed by student-athletes…unless of age with the discretion of the coach."

"We don't hold student-athletes to those expectations. We encourage them to meet those expectations," Athletic Director Chris Ummer said. "This isn't a contract. We could make it into one, but then who's going to police it all the time?"

Ummer said that what the athletic department stresses is conduct on and off the courts and fields, plus the athletes' conduct towards the teachers and faculty, as well as their fellow students.

"You're representing everyone here, not just your teammates and coaches," Ummer said. "Every student here is in a learning process. In Kali's case, it's a learning process."

Stoddard-Imari will appear in Caledonia County District Court on February 11 to answer to the underage consumption charge, where he plans to tell the judge that he believes he was a target of racial profiling.

What's the buzz? The latest news on the Hornets

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

Senior forward Whitney Hoyt and junior center Kali Stoddard-Imari were named Lyndon State's Athletes of the Week for the week ending Jan. 27.

Stoddard-Imari, a tri-captain on the men's basketball team, also earned his second Athlete of the Week award for this season. He scored 13 points and brought down 12 rebounds in a loss to Johnson State on Jan. 23. Stoddard-Imari scored 19 points and pulled down 15 boards on Jan. 26 in a loss at Mitchell College, then followed up that effort by pouring in 21 points and grabbing 11 more rebounds the next day in a loss at Eastern Connecticut State. Stoddard-Imari has been a double-double machine this season for the Hornets, with 12 on the year. He's averaging 16.5 points and 11.3 rebounds per game while shooting 57 percent from the floor. Stoddard-Imari was also named the USCAA Player of the Week for the week ending Jan. 6 for his play in the Vermont College Tournament.

This is also the second Athlete of the Week award this season for Hoyt, a co-captain on the women's basketball team. She scored 16 points against Johnson State on Jan. 23 and is averaging 10 points a game while shooting 44 percent from the field and 67 percent from the free throw line.

Junior forward Jen White of the women's team was given an honorable mention for the USCAA Player of the Week for the week ending Jan. 27. White had 15 points and 14 rebounds in a win against Johnson State on Jan. 23 and followed that up with a seven-point, 15-rebound effort in a loss at Mitchell. She's shooting 49 percent from the field and is averaging 11.2 points and seven rebounds per game to lead the Lady Hornets. White is averaging 14 points a game since the start of the second half of the season.

LSC Ski & Board Report

Resort	Recent Snow	Base	Open
Vermont			
Burke Mtn.	2" in last 48 hours	10-28" PP	40 trails, four lifts
Jay Peak	2" in last 48 hours	22-39" FRGR	71 trails, six lifts
New Hampshire			
Bretton Woods	1" in last 24 hours	36-48" LSGR	66 trails, nine lifts
Attitash	4" Jan. 27	20-60" FRGR	68 trails, six lifts
Maine			
Sunday River	3" Jan. 27	20-42" LSGR	99 trails, 12 lifts
Sugarloaf	3" Jan. 27	15-40" LSGR/FRGR	80 trails, 10 lifts

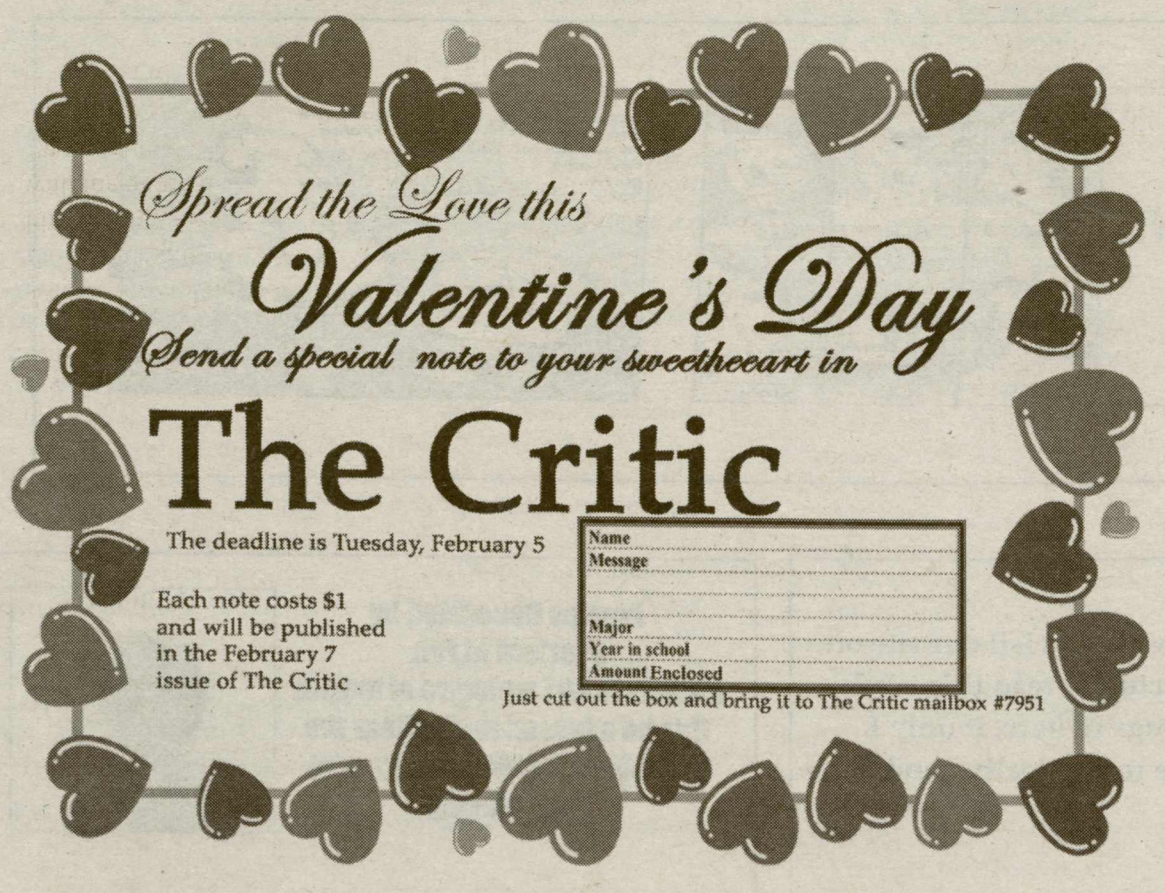
Notes: PP: Packed powder. PDR: Powder. FRGR: Frozen Granular. LSGR: Loose granular. **Source:** snocountry.com. Conditions as of Thursday night. For more information about ticket prices and the latest snow and weather conditions, please call your mountain of choice or visit its web site.

Upcoming Events

Basketball: 2/3 vs. UMaine-Machias, women @ 12 p.m., men @ 2 p.m.; 2/6 vs. Plymouth State, women @ 5:30 p.m., men @ 7:30 p.m.; 2/10 vs. UMaine-Presque Isle, women @ 1 p.m.; 2/16 vs. Green Mountain College, women @ 2 p.m., men @ 4 p.m.; 2/20 vs. New Hampshire Technical Institute, women @ 6 p.m., men @ 8 p.m. (Senior Night).

Hockey: 2/1 vs. Daniel Webster College, 8:15 p.m.; 2/9 vs. Alumni, 3:30 p.m.

Note: Home basketball games held at the Stannard Gymnasium. Home hockey games held at the Fenton Chester Arena (across from LI). Game times subject to change.



THE CRITIC

Serving the student voice of Lyndon State College

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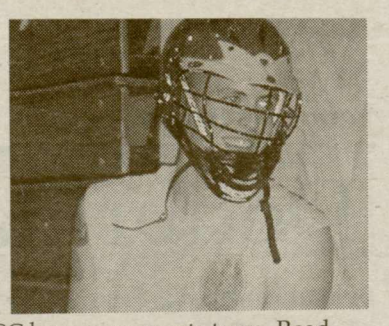

LSC has a new sports team. Read and find out what it is, if you can't tell from the pic above. Pg.8

SGA puts finishing touches on constituion

House and Senate hope it's for the last time

By Catherine Story
Business Manager

SGA members are revising their constitution in order to make up for waning student interest.

The new constitution removes the House of Representatives and the Student Senate. Instead there will be the executive board, elected representatives, and club representatives.

"Running the SGA if there is a lack of student interest will be easier," Jonathan Maciel, SGA President, said about the changes to the constitution.

"The only other real change is that the treasurer has to be approved by the business department," Maciel, a senior, said. This will help to ensure that the treasurer is qualified for the work that the job entails.

During budgeting the treasurer is responsible for organizing most of the meetings and providing SGA members with information about each club's proposed budget. Currently SGA does not have a treasurer.

The SGA receives the student activity fee that students pay as part of their tuition. That amount is $94 per student. With 1415 students enrolled this fall the total amount is $130,600.

"$80,000 to $100,000 of that goes to CAB" Maciel said, "President Moore decides how much CAB gets each semester."

SGA gets to divide the remainder between the clubs on campus and any student interested in holding an event on campus who can provide reasonable proof of planning as long as the SGA has the money.

"A couple of years ago a student got bands to come to campus," Maciel said. Students propose these kinds of events every so often but they are not always organized enough and SGA does not always have the funds.

SGA just recently came back into session after disbanding due to lack of interest. Maciel emphasized the importance of student participation on campus.

"Every decision made on campus comes from a committee," Maciel said, "and each of these committees has student representation."

"I couldn't even begin to list the committees that students are in," Maciel said.

Maciel did however give a short list including the committee in charge of construction projects, the strategic planning committee, the library committee, and the committee involved in renovating the academic center.

"The number of people on each committee comes from administration," Maciel said.

The administration often gives specific criteria for committee members. They will ask to have a number of commuters, non-traditional students, and residents.

"The school is also planning on holding a dining hall forum sometime in the next month" Maciel said.

"It's hard to know what students are looking for if students don't say what they're looking for," Maciel said. Steve Smith, Food Service Director, is planning the dining hall forum. He will also be a speaker during the April 31 SGA meeting.

That's Mr. Lyndon to you

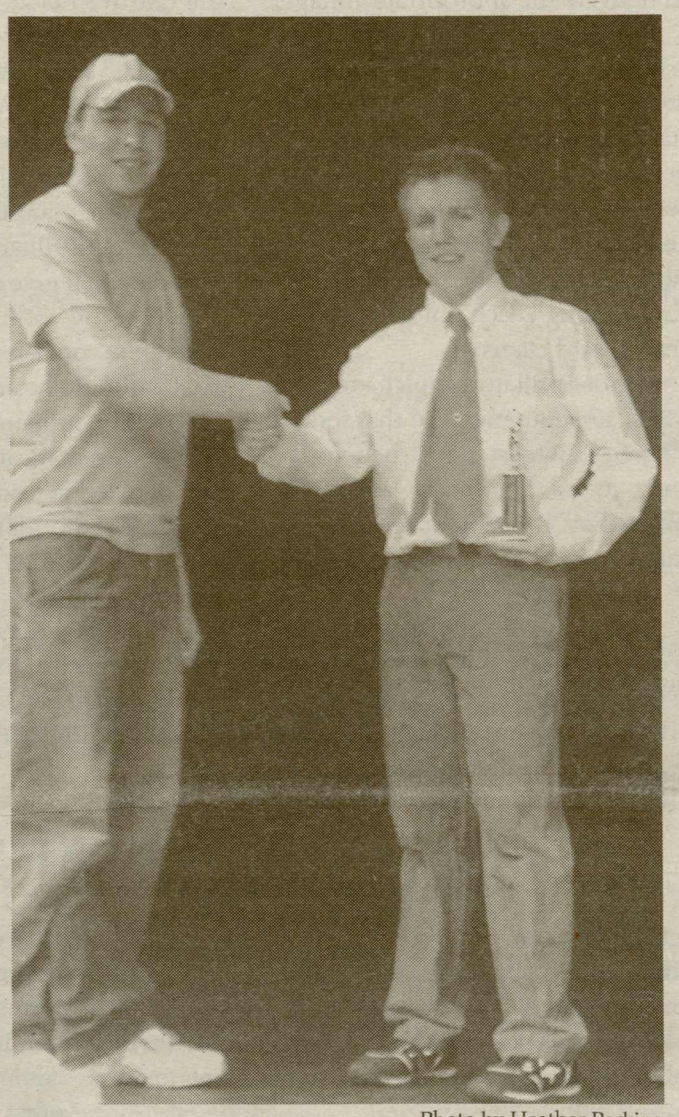

Photo by Heather Perkins

Dave Marks, right, is the new Mr. Lyndon. His lip-syncing to Michael Jackson's won him the title, so did his beat-boxing.

Students weigh in on the pros and cons of marijuana and alcohol

Some prefer weed over booze, while others see drinking as a reason to stay at Lyndon

By Amanda Wozniak
Special to the Critic

An LSC student was recently arrested for 'the consumption of alcohol by a minor.'

Vermont State Police cited Michael Robbins, 18, as intoxicated at LSC on Jan. 23, he is now scheduled to appear in court. He subsequently withdrew from the college.

College students are known for partying, drinking, and doing drugs. Are these factors affecting their ability to succeed in college?

Based on the number of documented alcohol incidents on campus last year, "Alcohol use and abuse still remains as the largest problem that we face here at LSC," Jonathan Davis, Interim Associate Dean of Student Affairs said. "Marijuana and Alcohol use and abuse are problems for all college campuses in the United States and LSC is not immune to this issue," Davis said.

Prescription drug abuse is also a rising problem for college campuses.

Three LSC students, who will remain anonymous, shared their thoughts on the topic.

One LSC senior that recently quit drinking said when he drank he missed too many of his morning classes. By missing the classes he got behind and when he did make it, he was too hung over to pay attention.

He admitted that he smokes marijuana regularly. He also said that it helps him focus.

"Smoking pot doesn't have the lasting affects on you and you don't feel bad in the morning," he said. "I don't think that smoking [marijuana] affects my ability to do good in school."

An LSC junior said that her drinking habits are what keep her at LSC. "I drink on the weekends," she said.

If she quit drinking all together she said she wouldn't be going to Lyndon. She also thinks her grades would improve.

"Using any substance sort of determines what crowd you hang out with," she said. "The rowdy drunks tend to not have the best grades."

One LSC graduate said his drinking did not affect his classes.

"I drank more often than I smoked [marijuana]," the former student said. "When I was in school we drank at the bars during the week and had parties on the weekends. Sometimes we'd smoke pot too."

The former student said he graduated with a B average.

"I was tired a lot and probably wasn't very healthy but it was worth it," he said. "I'm not an advocate of drinking heavily. I think it takes a certain responsibility to not let your personal life interfere with your schooling, especially since it isn't free."

"Alcohol and marijuana just cannot be considered enhancing drugs and they do not contribute to student success," Donna Dalton, Dean of Academic and Student Affairs said.

The administrator said that these substances are not conducive to clear thinking and may cause difficulty remembering and completing assignments.

"There is no doubt that substance use and abuse affects a person's performance in all kinds of activities of daily living, including those activities related to being a successful student," Dalton said.

Defibrillators: a shocking addition to campus

By Ben Holbrook
Managing Editor.

Defibrillators have been strategically placed around campus in case a person has a medical emergency.

A defibrillator is a device that is used to restore normal heart rhythm to patients in cardiac arrest, according to FDA Heart Health Online. The defibrillators around campus are automated external defibrillators, which automatically analyzes heart rhythm and delivers the appropriate voltage.

The defibrillators around campus are being placed in areas where there is heavy traffic, such as the residence halls, the gym, lobbies, and public safety, said Jonathan Davis Interim Associate Dean of Student Affairs. The Health and Safety Committee had discussed purchasing several defibrillators although each unit is fairly expensive, said Davis.

The defibrillators which are made by Zoll, are automated so that they will give step by step instructions as to how to use them, said Davis. This insures that "it will not produce a charge unless it senses that it needs to," said Davis.

Although the defibrillators can be used by anybody, the resident life staff are specifically trained to use them, said Davis. However, a broader training course is needed for the staff and public safety. In the case of an emergency it would be preferred that somebody with training would use the defibrillator, said Davis.

Ryanne Ayers, a senior English major and RA in Wheelock, said she and the other RA's spent three days training for different medical situations which included using the defibrillators. Should the need arise to use a defibrillator, "I feel confident because I'm not in charge of the shock," said Ayers.

"It's our job to make sure people are safe, it's not just about catching people doing stuff they're not supposed to," said Ayers.

"We don't want to put too many people in situations where they run up against something they aren't familiar with," said Davis.

The defibrillators are designed so that they will give step-by-step instructions by voice, such as telling where the contacts are to be placed or if CPR should be administered, said Davis. The proper electrical charge will be automatically chosen should a person need it, said Davis.

Each defibrillator case is alarm activated so that if the case is opened or tampered with an alarm will sound.

Currently not all of the defibrillators have been activated around campus but there are active ones next to the athletic department and at public safety.

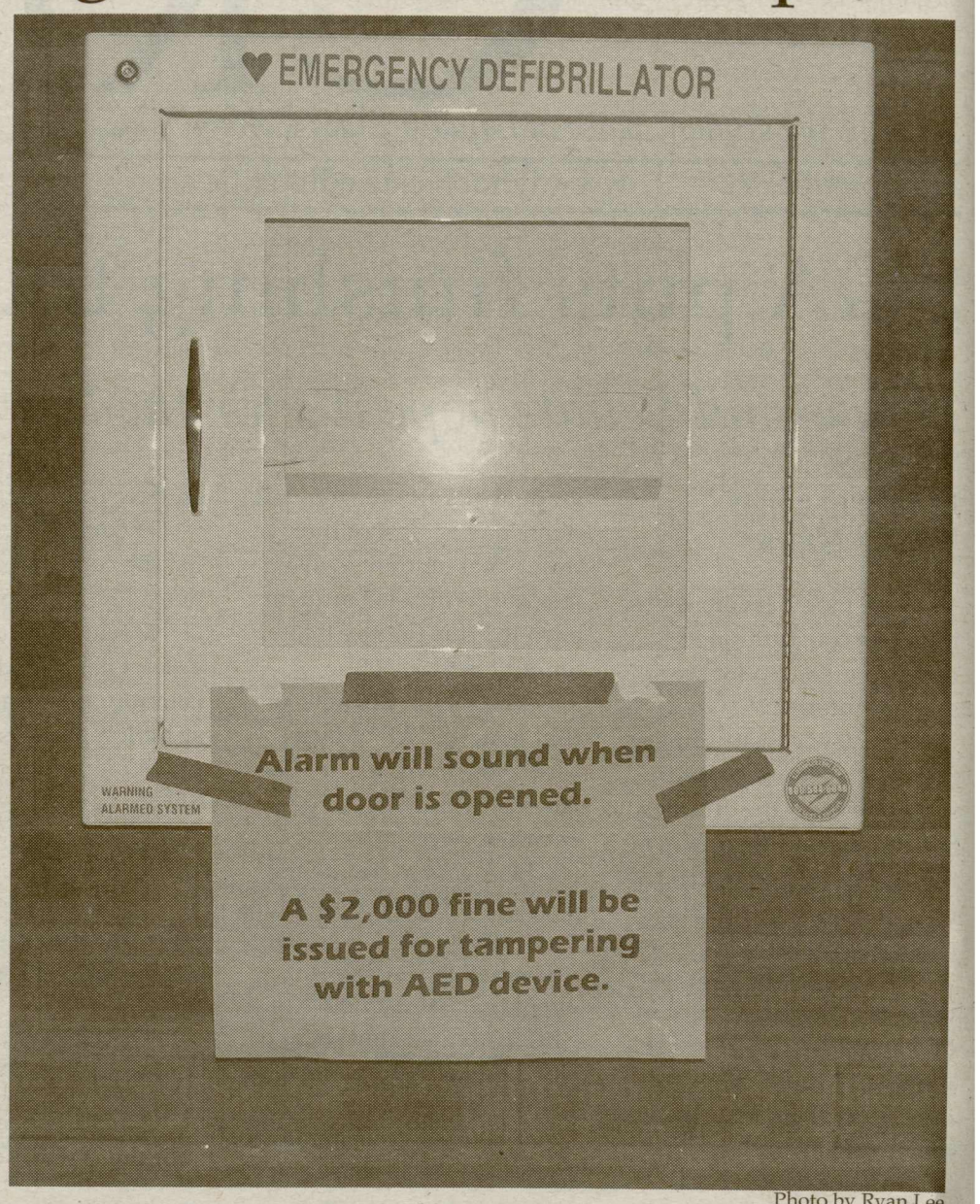

Photo by Ryan Lee

A defibrillator is located in Crevecour in case of an emergency. It measures heart rates and delivers the appropriate voltage.

LSC plans a regional arts and culture festival on campus

By Matt Vercillo
Critic Staff.

It certainly seems as if the wheels of LSC are in motion these days as plans are made for a regional arts and culture festival.

With many new projects and additions to the college already in sight, the college is planning another exciting attempt to expand the school's horizons. In a collaborative effort with Ginn Resorts, LSC is planning an ambitious new project. The event is still in the early developmental stages, but some core concepts have been established.

September saw the introduction of Burke Mountain's first annual fall music festival, which was headlined by the successful Vermont-based band *Grace Potter and The Nocturnals*. Expanding on the ideas and success of Burke Mountain Music Festival (which will remain as a separate, distinct event), this new festival would incorporate a similar format, but also add several other elements of entertainment that reflect the cultural diversity of the community. In addition to music, there will be other artistic and theatrical performances and exhibits.

Inspiration for the festival is actually being drawn from a preexisting event developed by Appalachian State University in Boone, NC. ASU established the event known as "An Appalachian Summer Festival" over twenty years ago. Since then the festival has blossomed in to a prestigious and successful tradition. Over the years, the festival has hosted a wide variety of performers including Willie Nelson, Doc Watson, Arlo Guthrie, and Bruce Hornsby; as well as various theater productions, dance performances, and art exhibits.

The new festival would not necessarily follow this archetype as far as the types of performers it books, but is drawing more influence from the goals Appalachian State established when creating their event. LSC and their partners are interested in ASU's desire to establish an event that would make their institution more visible, help in setting a high standard of class and excellence reflective of the institution, and draw more people to the institution and area that may not come otherwise.

Right now, the goal is to draw around 3,000 people to the event, based upon the size of the school and the population of the area. The timeframe for the event would consider other local events as to not draw any attention away from pervious traditions and established events in the community. The idea is that the festival would occur late in the month of June.

$2,000 iMac computer stolen from the HAC graphic design room

By Joey Stewart
Special to The Critic.

A theft has recently occurred at LSC involving a new Apple iMac Computer.

The computer was taken from room 125 in HAC. The computer is worth over $2000 and was hooked up to one of the printers at the front of the room close to the door Harry Mueller, Assistant Professor of Graphic and Digital Arts, said.

Although large, the iMac is a screen and computer in one unit which was part of the reason for having them: they don't take up very much architectural space. Unfortunately, this also made it an easy item to steal, Mueller said.

This particular computer contained all of the software for the printer that it was connected to, making it a very important computer to the Graphic Design Department, Mueller said.

"The reason that we had two of these computers hooked up to the two printers was to have a better flow, and to ease congestion when a lot of students need to print something, and now that we only have the one computer connected to one printer, things are going to go a lot slower, and the situation is going to make things difficult for a lot of students and faculty," Mueller said.

Room 125, a graphic design lab, is only accessible by graphic design students who have a key, and all students must sign a contract before receiving their key. The contract lets students know that they are responsible for the equipment, keeping the room clean, etc, Mueller said.

"This is the first time that we have had a theft like this, and we want to have some discussions about it, and the department will brainstorm to see what can be done to tighten up control," Mueller said. "What troubles us at this department is that anyone can gain access to this room, I mean, it's not exactly an armored truck, and the locks are not infallible; they may be able to be picked. Or, it could be that, as often happens, one of the students using the lab went to use the restroom, leaving their key behind, and propped the door open with a trash bin, which could have given someone time enough to get in, but we just don't know."

"I am hoping that this computer 'magically' comes back, because if not this will be taken further. Apple will be contacted and the computer will be traced. I warn any student right now who may be involved, that I would welcome the opportunity to have it returned," Mueller said, "and I will talk to anyone who has knowledge about this situation, and I will keep names out of it if someone comes forward, or they could send me an email at harry.mueller@lyndonstate.edu, anything really; they could even drop me a line or slip a note under the door. Just let me know."

Holy Sheet

Innuendo all around us

By Jordan Royer
Sex Columnist

If sex is a keep-it-in-the-bedroom topic, then why is it that everything these days has some sort of sexual connotation or appearance? I mean, LSC is known by some because of our huge ice penis.

Maybe I am just perverted, I won't argue there, but I know I am not the only one that thinks some of the things I think. Like that new vibrating face cleaner pad. Take it in the shower and it helps with scrubbing and such. Right, like I am the only one that thought that was a multi-task took right there. Why don't you just come out and say it in the advertising- want to buy a sexual stimulator but you are too embarrassed? Here, wash yourself with this little vibrating do-hicky, *wink, wink*.

Sexual innuendos are everywhere. In the kitchen—beat until stiff— On instructions -- screw tightly, add lubricant if necessary. Or one of my favorites -- be careful not to puncture the nipple—. I mean, with all these being said/read all around me, how can I not constantly be thinking about sex? I mean, baseball is about the only other thing I think about, but maybe that's because chicks dig the long ball.

My last point is a little different, but still a lot the same. "You two are like two peas in a pod." Heard that before? Yeah, me too. But let's be serious now, how many times to you pop open a pea pod and see just two peas in there? Pretty much whenever I have fresh peas from the garden there are like three or four peas in that pod. Telling us something? Hmm.

How am I supposed to think about that special someone to share my pod with when there is room for two or three more? Like I said, I won't argue that I am a little perverted.

Position of the week- The bumble bee (or Hornet for those with school spirit)

Letter Policy:

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Correction

Due to an editing error, the prize for the Change-A-Light Campaign was incorrect in last week's Critic. It should have read: The suite that changes out the most light bulbs per person will receive a free game of bowling.

Moments Like These

"Ankle Grabbers" not just for kids

By Trish Pennypacker
Critic Columist

In a quiet corner booth at a local diner, I sip my coffee slowly while my daughter chats with my mother. Ever since my father died a little over a year ago, my Mom and I have been meeting for lunch a couple times a month. This is a big deal. Conversation with my mother isn't easy. But this past year has done to my resentment and understanding what sunlight does to blue jeans on a clothesline: faded and softened. In many ways, I see her differently now. She no longer seems as dependent and clingy, stuck completely within a shell I don't understand. She is bravely becoming independent, trying to move beyond her sorrows. Our conversations have gotten deeper. Today, especially, I notice an extra softening of her features.

Pushing her food aside, Mom leans onto the table, glancing around before confessing she is considering dating again. With giddiness she tells me about a man she's interested in. I laugh as she tries to imagine him in my place: a table between them, casual dinner, conversation. Not an easy task for a woman who hasn't dated in 34 years. "What if I can't date? What if I compare every man to your father?" She sits back and shudders, a mixture of fear and excitement. Taking a deep breath, I try to reassure her that the beauty of life consists in not knowing what to expect. Everything will be ok.

She smiles as she watches my daughter munch ketchup soggy fries. "You used to be just like her," she reflects. Ha! Me: the child of defiance and dreams, the child that believed tigers lived under the bed and could be tamed with coaxing. As stubborn and dreamy as I used to be, I doubt any other child would be as entertainingly inquisitive and bold as my daughter.

I look at my daughter, her deep green-brown eyes intent on the couple seated in the next booth. "Where do you come from?" she asks them, not caring that the man's face is hidden beneath a black mop of a beard. The man mumbles something. The woman smiles weakly. Not the friendliest of couples. My daughter doesn't care; they are new to her. I think she'll never stop quizzing them but in the middle of rapid questions, the crayons on the table grab her attention. She wants to draw monsters.

Monsters have always fascinated and never frightened her. One of my favorite snapshots was taken the Halloween she was almost eight months old. In the middle of an ogre, a pirate, and Frankenstein sat my smiling baby-witch. Two years later, trying to explain that a four-legged Rover might bite just encourages her to sigh "but Mom" as she coos "nice doggy" to the Mastiff on the street. Someday she'll have more fear; it's just her age, I try to convince myself. But after a long noisy slurp of her chocolate milk, she disappears beneath the table to look for Ankle Grabbers. They are, after all, under everything.

I turn my attention back to my mother, noticing her voice has taken a deeper tone. She's worried about running out of wood and oil. I sympathize. I moan about rising prices and keeping the kids fed. She talks about loneliness, the family. "Did you know your grandfather's not doing well?" she asks. "The doctor prescribed him sleeping pills. Mostly for anxiety since he's afraid to sleep. Doesn't think he'll wake up."

I wonder how he must feel having outlived a son. I feel sorry for him, painfully so, but my youth (and my exhaustion from raising the daughter staving off Ankle Grabbers) keeps me from fully grasping a fear of sleep, the limits of time. I am young enough to still believe in hope and future. As Annie Dillard says, "We teach our children one thing only, as we were taught: to wake up." I never feel fear for very long, for I'm too busy being amused by my daughter's tall tales, each day anticipating what wondrous thing she'll do next. Still, when I assure my daughter there are no such things as Ankle Grabbers, am I telling her the truth?

Maybe not. Maybe the Ankle Grabbers of a toddler's world manifest themselves later into too high gas prices and soaring mortgage rates, awkward dates, the end of a marriage, the stress of an academic exam, a job interview, doctors' appointments, sleeplessness, depression, old age. That a global truth lurks in the unknown may be at the heart of our fears. To fear to the extent that I no longer find even the slightest joy in life is worst, to me, than death itself.

My mother continues talking hopefully about the future. I ask for a refill of coffee and laugh as my mother shrieks when cold hands wrap around her ankle. "Don't move," my daughter says. "I'll scare the Ankle Grabbers away."

Work-study positions are disappearing like hotcakes

By Catherine Story
Critic Staff

Work-study is an easy way for students who qualify to earn money on campus.

When students choose their work-study at the beginning of the fall semester some jobs are more popular than others.

"We have more people coming and asking specifically for the library and athletics work studies," Linda Wacholder, director of career services, said.

"Public Safety and the mail room are also popular work studies, " Darlene Gilman, staff assistant, said.

"All work studies close quickly," Gilman said, " There is only a limited number on campus."

"I like my work study because it will help me in my future career as an English teacher and a writer," Trish Pennypacker, a junior, said. She works in the academic center as a writing tutor.

"When someone comes in and leaves knowing that they understand what they came for it's a good feeling," said Pennypacker, "Another plus is that it's quiet and you can get your homework done."

"I like working at the circulation desk because I get to see a lot of professors and students from my classes and chat with them,"

"It's an easy way to earn money,"

Ashley Cutting, a freshman, said.

Alia Wedemeger, a sophomore, said.

"I also get to do homework," Wedemeger said.

"The flexible hours are another benefit." Wedemeger said, "I only have class on Tuesday and Thursday and I get to work between classes."

George Hacking has four students working for Public Safety on work-study.

"It's a fun place to work," Hacking said, " Students are not usually tied to a desk."

"Students get the opportunity to get outside and interact with students and faculty," Hacking said. "They can also be held accountable for what could be a very serious job."

"It's an easy way to earn money," Ashley Cutting, a freshman who works in public safety, said.

The mailroom is also a popular work-study and the reason was a little different.

"Harry Swett is why I like working here," Tasia Bolduc, a second year associate degree student, said. "He's a really positive guy who loves life."

"Flexible hours," is the reason Ben Lambert, a junior, likes working in the mailroom. "You get scheduled around your classes."

Spring is not the best time to get work-study. Often the only openings are from students who either graduated in December or transferred to another school.

"Make sure you get your FAFSA in on time," Gilman said, as a suggestion to any student interested in work-study. The due date for FAFSA this year is Feb. 15.

Gilman also recommended that students talk to their work-study advisor in the spring to ensure that their job will still be available the following year.

"Ally" what is it and who are they?

By Ben Holbrook
Critic Staff

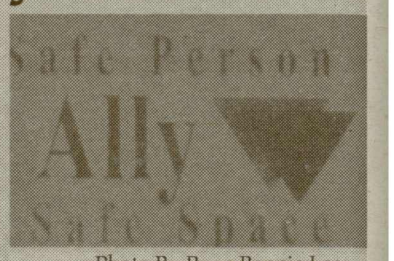


Photo By Ryan Bennie Lee

Although there are numerous signs saying Ally on different professor's doors, the purpose of these signs is unclear.

Ally is a service put in place by the Gay/ Straight Alliance in an effort to give students a chance to talk to a professor about any issues they have. Although any student can stop in to talk to a professor with an Ally sign on their door, the service is intended for gay or lesbian students.

"Students said it was very helpful to see on the doors," said Patricia Shine, professor of Human Services and an advisor to the GSA. Professors are part of the Ally service on a volunteer basis. Students should assume the professor is open and able to help, said Shine.

Any faculty member who has an Ally sign on their door is, "open to students speaking to us not as a counselor but as someone who could give them the help they need," said Shine.

When Ally was first proposed during a faculty meeting there was "openness and interest," said Shine. Unfortunately, the only way for new faculty to find out about Ally is through word of mouth. Most of the faculty who are part of the Ally service have been around for a while.

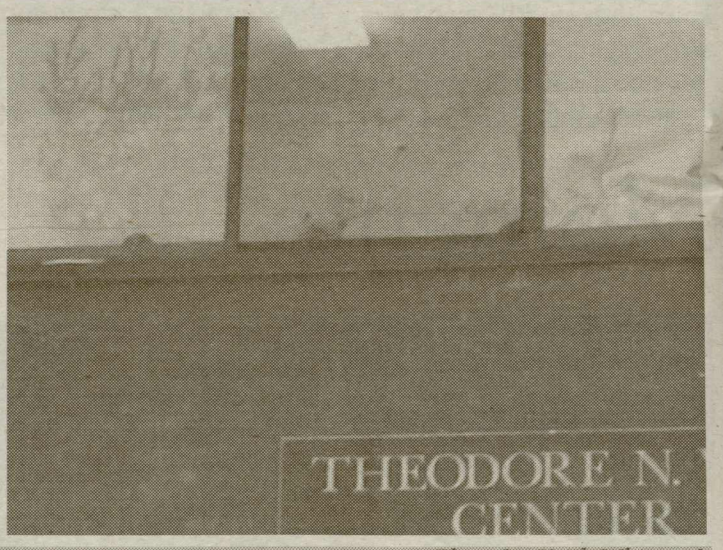


Photo by Keith Whitcomb
A suspicious looking cat sitting in a window above the student center confused many students Wednesday

Young voters in L.A. are trading their apathy for involvement

By Julia Erlandson
Daily Bruin
(UCLA)

LOS ANGELES(U-WIRE) - It's a common adage among politicians and pundits: Young people don't vote.

But after years of low youth turnout, that trend may be changing, if the 2008 primary results are any indication.

Turnout among 18- to 29-year-olds has jumped in nearly every state that has held a primary or caucus so far. At press time, the figures for California were not available.

Marc Morgenstern attributed the change at least partly to the culture of the campaigns this year. Morgenstern heads Declare Yourself, a Los Angeles-based organization that aims to get out the vote among young people.

"There is nothing like compelling candidates and an exciting campaign to get young people to vote, and we have both of those in 2008," he said. "In both parties you have interesting candidates and races."

This election year is also one of the first in which candidates have made a concerted effort to target and reach out to young voters, Morgenstern said.

"This is the first time you have candidates who are listening to young voters and are talking directly to them," he said. "Before, young voters thought candidates only cared about their elders."

Feeling a connection to a candidate can be an important factor in a student's decision to vote, said Jennifer Propper, spokeswoman for Bruin Republicans.

She noted that several candidates, including Republican Ron Paul and Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., have specifically reached out to college students.

Part of the reason candidates have been able to effectively target younger voters is the advent of tools such as Facebook and Youtube, Propper said.

"It's just very much in your face," she said. "It makes the candidates more accessible. Before, politics was more an old people thing, and it was on the old people channel ... (now) it's becoming entertaining to watch."

Morgenstern also said combining entertainment and politics may help encourage young people to vote.

Declare Yourself uses celebrity spokespeople, including Hayden Panettiere and America Ferrera, to promote voting, and Morgenstern said he believes celebrity involvement contributes to a larger cultural change.

"It's cool to care again," he said. "It's fun and interesting and exciting."

But even so, students ultimately must decide for themselves whether or not to get involved, Morgenstern said, and historically many have chosen not to.

"The registration process can be confusing and time-consuming," Morgenstern said. "It's not easy to get good information. What happens quite often is that young voters who might otherwise be active throw up their hands because they don't want to look stupid and they don't really know which way to go."

Despite their spotty voting record, young people are highly likely to be involved in their communities in some other way, often by volunteering or participating in student groups.

Stephanie Chang, Community Service commissioner for the Undergraduate Students Association Council, said she believes volunteering may help students form the personal connections they often miss in politics.

"When you're giving to the community you feel like you're accomplishing something, but when you vote you don't necessarily see the effects," she said. "I think a lot of the politics is a long-term thing ... students don't feel like it directly impacts them."

She added that she believes volunteering can in some cases encourage students to become more politically involved, for instance if students can clearly see how politics affects the community they are working with.

If politicians could mimic the personal connections students feel when volunteering, young people might be more likely to vote, Chang said.

"They just really need to appeal to (young people)," she said. "They have to feel a connection with (a politician) - I think that's really important."

Lyndon State's country music star

Lindsay Johnson to sing in Tennessee music competition

By Gwen Cook
Critic Staff

Lindsay Johnson, a Music Business and Industry Major at LSC, hopes to out sing the best in the last leg of the New Hampshire Country Music Association competition which takes place in Pigeon Forge, Tenn.

She first heard about the competition on the NH country music station WPKQ

"I was excited, I love competitions!" Johnson said. My dad was excited too. He encouraged me to compete as well."

She will be able to use all of the exposure from the competition in Tennessee as well as another regional competition in Manchester, N.H., which takes place on Feb. 16, as a positive thing. Johnson said, "I join competitions because it makes me a better performer. I am also building up my resume."

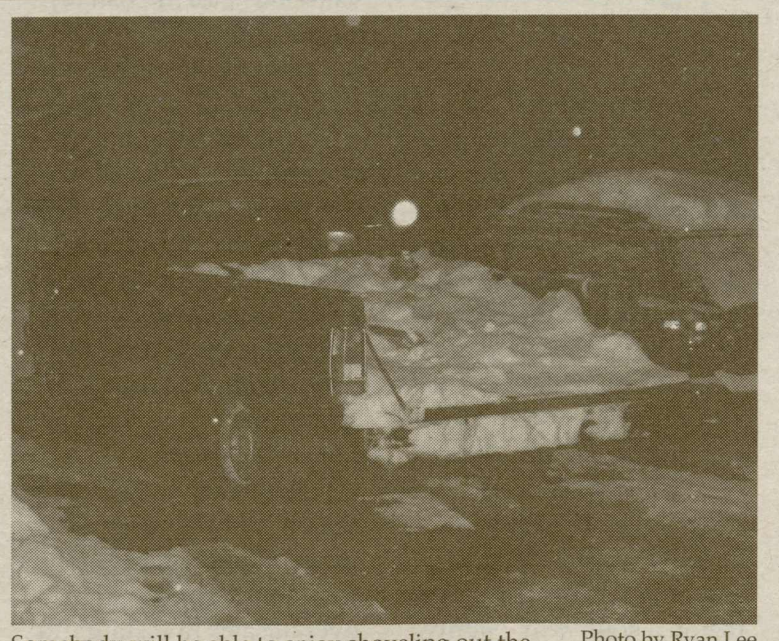
Johnson attended Concord High School in Concord, VT.
While in high school, the only chance that she had to perform was singing the national anthem at the home basketball games.

She did this all four years of her high school career.

"I didn't have any chorus or lessons at Concord," says Johnson, "Concord doesn't have a music program and they haven't since I can remember."

Now in the college she is getting the lessons and exposure that she always wanted.
"I am now surrounded by music and I'm trying to learn everything I should have learned as a child," Johnson said, "It is very hard for me. I don't read music or play an instrument so learning for me is very difficult."

While down at the competition, Johnson hopes to make a trip to Nashville which is, as she says, her "Favorite place on Earth!"



Somebody will be able to enjoy shoveling out the back of their truck after the latest storms dumped over a foot of snow. Not only does the snow prove to be an inconvenience, it also makes travel difficult at times. Photo by Ryan Lee

Non-traditional students face many challenges in college due to various obstacles in their daily life

ByJennifer Ingram
Critic Staff

It is hard to balance school life with family life.

"I am always finding it hard to give the attention that both equally deserve," Diane Tanguay, a senior, said.

Tanguay is a non-traditional student here at LSC. She lives in Orleans with her husband, her teenage son, and her daughter who is attending college in NC and majoring in Pharmacy.

About 30 percent of LSC's student populations are non-traditional students or commuters. There are many social, educational, and economic challenges that non-traditional and commuter students face everyday such as:

Dealing with bad weather

Many students travel from the Derby-Newport and Orleans-Barton area and there are many days especially in the winter when the weather is different in the Derby-Newport and Orleans-Barton area than it is Lyndonville.

Many commuters feel as though it is not safe to travel to get to college, however, if they use their own judgment and do not attend class because of the weather situation they are penalized by their professors for not attending class.

It can be snowy and miserable in the Derby-Newport and Orleans-Barton area and then once over Sheffield Heights it can be totally clear and beautiful. There are many students who ask the question to themselves: At what point do you take a risk and travel over Sheffield Heights?

Cost of gas

With the cost of gas rising everyday there are many students who are feeling the affects. "Traveling from Orleans to Lyndonville five days this semester is putting a strain on my finances this semester due to the fact that gas is over $3 a gallon," Tanguay said.

For many commuters it costs anywhere from twenty dollars to $50 a week to drive back and forth to classes that averages to be between $300 and $750 throughout the semester.

Social isolation

Being a non-traditional student can leave many isolated because they have other activities and responsibilities that they must juggle and tend to. For the most part, college students socialize after classes are done and they are doing something that they enjoy or participating in an extra-curricular activity.

The majority of non-traditional students are not involved in non-academic activities for the simple fact that they have families and responsibilities outside of college.

Difficulty with class structure

Many non-traditional students find it very difficult to transition back to school because they have been out of the routine of school for so long. Not attending classes for years many loose the skills that they learned in high school about taking notes. There are many professors who lecture very fast so as students you have to learn what is key information and write the information fast because the professors move at a rapid pace.

This is typical of the kind of weather that most non-traditional students have to deal with on their daily commute. Poor conditons can seriously impact their ability to make it to classes on time or even at all. Photo by Ryan Lee

Pot penalties may be eased

By Brian Howe
Special to The Critic

Marijuana laws may be easing soon and some students take this as good news.

A proposed bill would make the sale or possession of four ounces or less, and two small marijuana plants a civil violation rather than a criminal one in the state of Vermont.

If this bill takes place, some are saying it may be a burden on the legal system and there could even be more problems. Some supporters of the bill see the advantages of this decision; if the state passes this bill, they can tax and regulate marijuana. A drug counselor and opponent of this bill said marijuana is a drug and can affect anything from relationships to driving.

Here at LSC students voiced their own concerns of this bill.

Isaac Wetherby, a junior said, "A lot of people already smoke marijuana and for them this may be a good thing because they carry it around anyways but now they can start carrying around more."

This is only the first step in a long legislative process and people on both sides are happy to be discussing this. It could still be a few years until this bill actually goes into affect.

Smoking bans causing businesses to spiral downwards

By Brett King
Kansas State Collegian
(Kansas State U.)

MANHATTAN, Kan. (U-Wire) - After failing to pass a statewide smoking ban in 2007, liberal Mission Hills, Kan., Republican Sen. David Wysong is on the warpath once again to outlaw smoking in restaurants and bars.

The bill, which was just given to the Senate Judiciary Committee, would force counties to put the issue on their November 2008 ballots. Counties across the state would vote to outlaw smoking on a county-by-county basis.

According to the Kansas City Star on Jan. 30, the Kansas Health Policy Authority believes the smoking ban would be "a way to improve health and reduce the cost smokers put on the state's health-care system."

Wysong said, as reported by the Lawrence Journal-World on Jan. 30, "I believe this bill will save tens of thousands of Kansas lives." However, he has no problem accepting blood money from tobacco taxes to pay for programs across the state.

Don Sayler, president and CEO of the Kansas Restaurant and Hospitality Association, said in a story in the Wichita Eagle, "KRHA has opposed smoking bans or restrictions because they remove a business owner's right to choose the smoking environment in which [they] desire to operate. Additionally, [bans] remove the freedom of choice for both employees and customers to choose the environment they wish to work in and patronize."

Arguments against smoking bans tend to be based around freedom of choice, both for the owner and patrons, and economic effects. Restaurant and bar owners have explained how they will be affected economically by a decline in sales if a smoking ban is passed.

Supporters of the ban, like Wysong, believe there is a lack of evidence to prove the claim of economic damage. However, a compressive study of the economic effect of smoking bans conducted by Michael Pakko, research officer for the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, has shown the danger for small business owners.

According to Pakko's research, since January 2007, when Columbia, Mo., issued a city-wide smoking ban, overall sales in restaurants and bars declined sharply by 5 percent in less than a year. This staggering decrease is emphasized by the fact that sales only increased 6.8 percent from 2002 through 2006. Pakko said in his report, "According to local press reports, owners of at least four establishments have cited the smoking ban as a factor in their decision to close their doors in 2007."

Smoking bans are not only harmful to business and state revenue but also to the labor market. According to "The Effect of Smoking Bans on Bars and Restaurants: An Analysis of Changes in Employment," published in the Berkley Electronic Journal of Economic Analysis and Policy on Feb. 8, 2007, there has been a significant decrease in employment for bars in smoke-free regions. This decrease has ranged from 4 to 16 percent across the country.

Local and state governments have no right to ban the use of a legal product in public, especially when the state gladly accepts tax revenue from the product. There are plenty of non-smoking alternatives for individuals who do not want to be in a smoke-filled environment. Prohibition failed, and smoking bans will too.

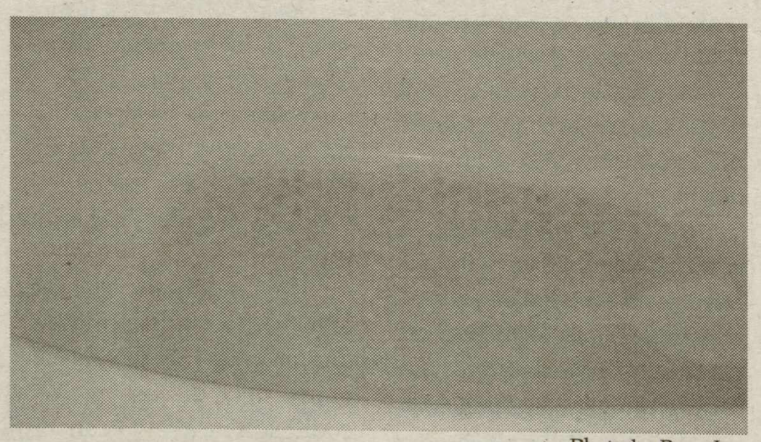


Photo by Ryan Lee

Dirty bathtub in Rogers dorm.

Photo by Keith Whitcomb Jr.

Ambulence parked outside of the Alexander Twilight Theatre.

Thieves break in for the sake of gaining a GPS

By Ben Worsley
The Diamondback
(U. Maryland)

COLLEGE PARK, Md. (U-Wire) - Area thieves have been targeting cars they believe contain GPS systems, university police said.

Since Jan. 6, 10 GPS thefts have occurred in College Park, according to Capt. John Brandt of University Police's Crime Prevention Unit. A series of these thefts occurred in Lot 1B, while another string of thefts occurred on Tulane Drive near Adelphi Road, Brandt said.

In addition to the 10 thefts, other cars' windows have been broken because of the presence of suction cup rings, suction cups or mounts on the dashboards, signs that may indicate a GPS unit in the car, Brandt added.

GPS, or Global Positioning System, can come with such mounts so they can be placed on dashboards for more convenient use.

According to Brandt, these thefts are becoming a problem not just in College Park, but across the country.

"There is an increase [in GPS thefts] nationwide, statewide, pretty much everywhere you go," he said.

In response to the recent incidents, "the first step is to spread awareness," Brandt said. An e-mail was sent to all students on Monday alerting them of the GPS thefts. The e-mail, prepared by Brandt, reminded students to secure or hide loose items, lock all doors and close all windows in their vehicles. Students with GPS units should also remove the suction cup mounts from their dashboards when they are not in their vehicles, Brandt said.

Some students are already taking steps to secure their cars, they said. Senior psychology major Laura Romanosky, who owns a TomTom, a type of portable GPS, said she usually keeps the unit in her purse or apartment and rarely stores it in her glove compartment.

"I was told not to mount it because thieves can see the ring from where the suction cup was and may break into your car to look for it," she said.

University Police are also taking a proactive approach by increasing their camera and patrol rounds, Brandt said. The campus is equipped with more than 250 cameras, and officers are stationed in certain areas to look out for any suspicious activity, he added.

At approximately 5:20 a.m. on Feb. 2, the campus cameras were used to spot men using flashlights to look inside cars on Tulane Drive. Although the men drove away, they were soon stopped by police, with one man arrested on charges of driving without a license and both denied further access to the campus. In their car, the registration of another vehicle was found that had had a GPS and iPhone stolen from it the previous day, Brandt said.

Despite those arrests, the number of GPS thefts has raised concerns among students.

Nick Lituchy, a sophomore bioengineering major, got a GPS over Thanksgiving break, and is now questioning keeping his car on the campus, he said.

"I feel safe parking [my car] on campus, but recently not as much," Lituchy said.

Romanosky echoed Lituchy's concerns.

"I generally feel safe parking in my driveway on Hartwick [Drive] or in friends' driveways," Romanosky said, "but that's about it."

"Please destroy this Fun Page after you finish the puzzles. Save me the trouble of enacting out my rage thus."

Fantastic Fantasy Find

S	L	L	O	R	T	L	Z	D	G	M	S	Q	Z	Z	J	E	D	S	H	C	G	N	Z	Z
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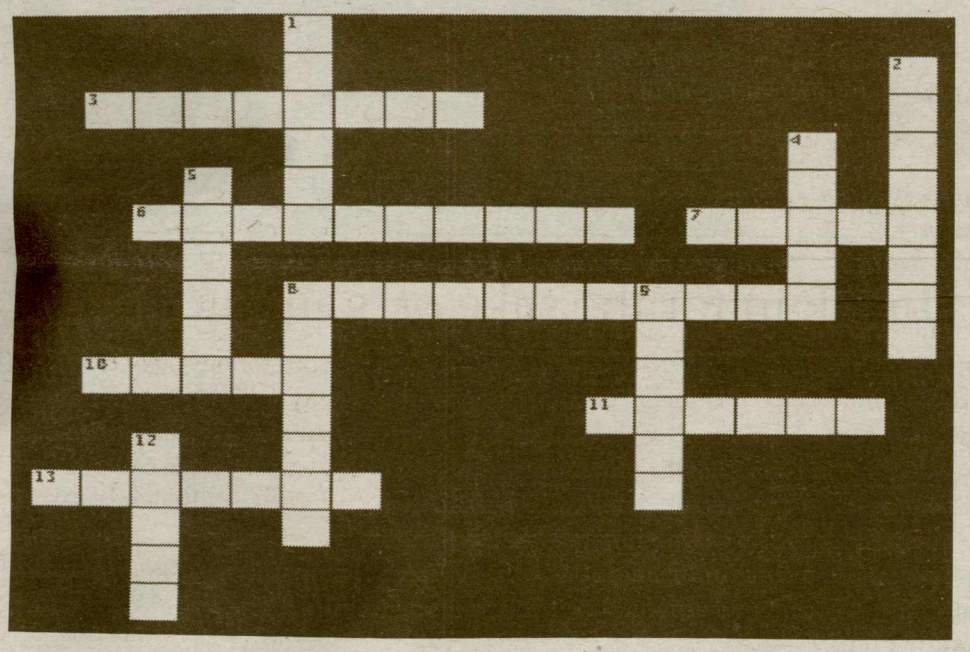
gnomes elves dwarves halflings orcs trolls ogres humans wizards
enchanted woods caves dungeons volcanoes shaman warrior huntsman druid
rivers undead minotaur

Slap Me With a Salami Sudoku

	6	8			5			7
4		5	7	2				
9	7			4		5		
			5		7			2
		7				6		
6			3		9			
		9		7			1	6
				5	2	9		8
7			1			2	4	

Literary Crossword

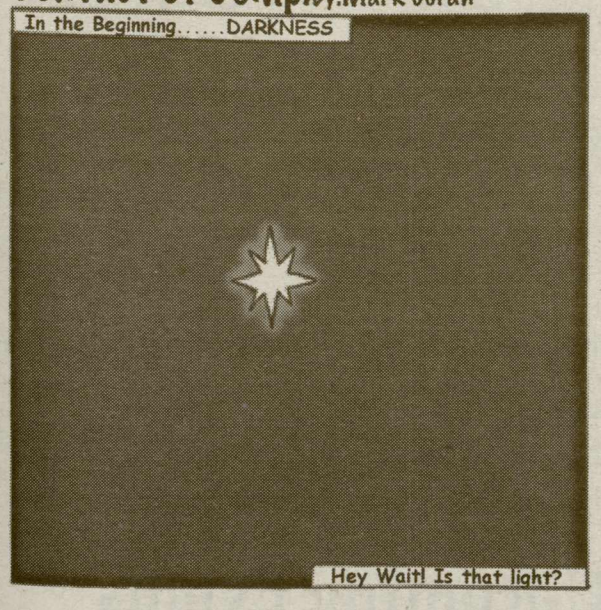


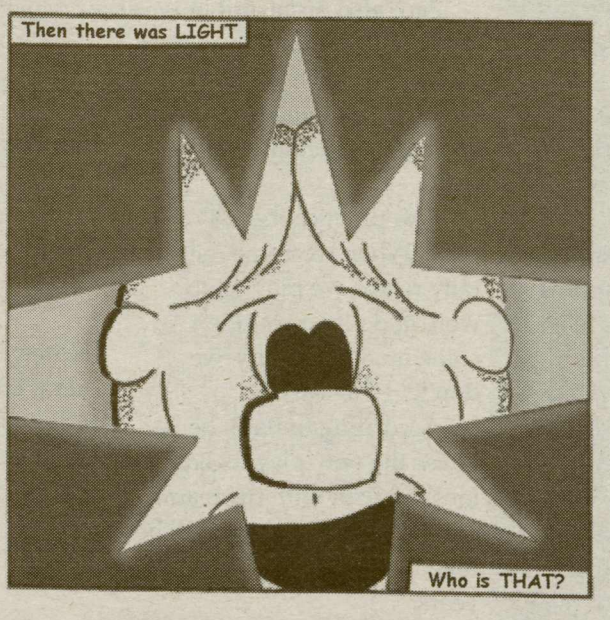
INSTRUCTIONS:
The clues give works of literature. Each answer will be the last name of a person whose name can be attributed to the work. (Example: If the clue was "The Girl Who Loved Tom Gordon," the answer would be "King."

ACROSS
3. Catcher in the Rye
6. Lyrical Ballads
7. A Study in Scarlet
8. Merchant of Venice
10. The Divine Comedy
11. Catch-22
13. Cantebury Tales

DOWN
1. Heart of Darkness
2. Slaughterhouse Five
4. Finnegans Wake
5. Many lovely anthologies
8. Frankenstein
9. Co-writer with Marx
12. The Trial as well as other strange stories.

Conflict of Comp. By: Mark Coran

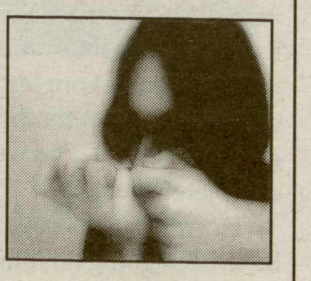




STUMPED!?

For solutions to this week's puzzles as well as last week's, visit our site on the Web at lyndonstate.edu/critic. Does anybody actually read this box? Godfrey Ablewhite. I could start putting funny things in here, if only I were an accomplished humor writer. Did I not say I'd give back Sudoku?

Puzzles Generated by Overlord of Fun.
I should be playing Black Hawk Down right now!
Why do I torture myself like this?



LSC's newest contact sport

By Nathaniel Champagne
Critic Staff

With the start of a new semester, so too starts the official season of Lyndon State's new lacrosse team, coached by Kingdom Trails' Tim Tierney.

The team was created along with volleyball as LSC's two new varsity sports and is said to be the fastest sport on two legs. I talked to "captain" Craig Salvagno for a rundown of lacrosse and what sets it apart from other sports.

"Lacrosse is like basketball in that there are set plays, hockey in the physical, and hitting aspects and soccer in the running aspect," Salvagno said.

For those who are not familiar with the sport, lacrosse is a 10 person game consisting of three attack players or "pretty boys" as they're called, three middies, the "work horses," with a defense made up of three anchormen and a goalie.

The start of game is done with a face off, which is much like a face off in hockey. The two center middies will fight for the ball which can often actually look like a fight. From there the game breaks down into set plays and instinctual reactions to whatever the other team decides to throw at them.

The only thing these guys can't do is take their sticks to each others heads and get caught.

Though they have not yet played any official games, their season will begin at the end of March.

The soccer field will become the new home of our lacrosse team, where they will play teams such as Johnson, Castleton, and Norwich, all of which have good records themselves.

Due to conditions outside the team has been forced indoors for practices where they have been rotating gym time with basketball, softball, and rugby.

Even though the team has sufficient numbers to play, they are always looking to expand their roster, which is currently at 14. The team is still looking to pick up new players; all someone has to do is stop by a practice.

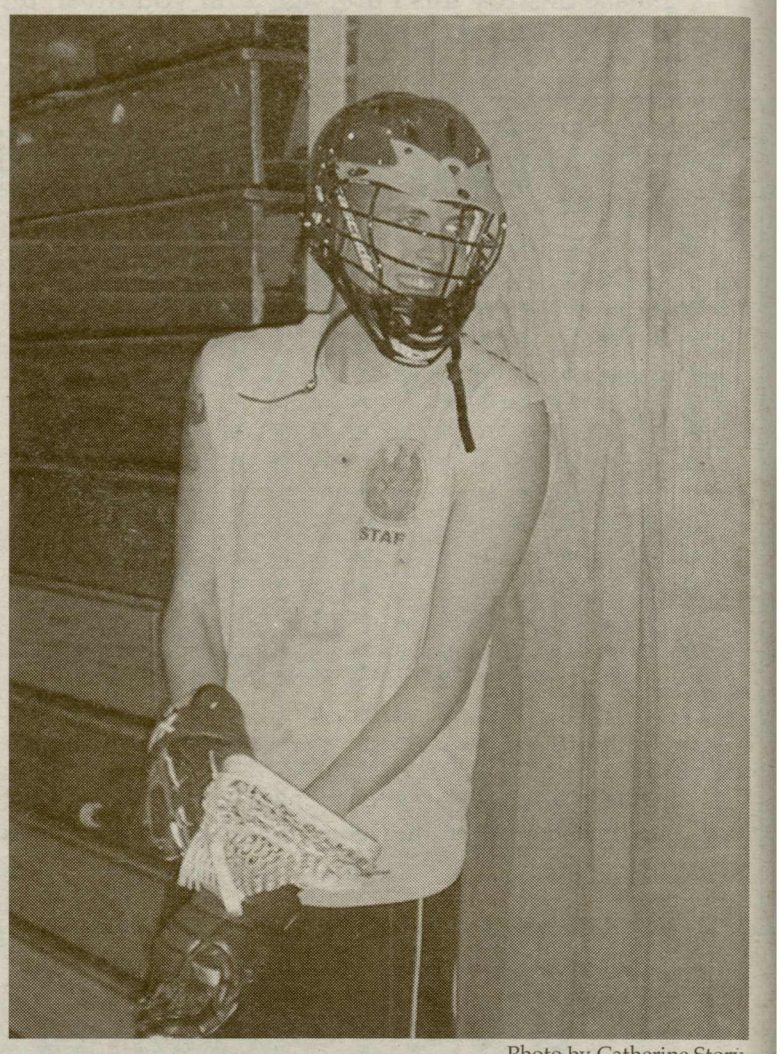


Photo by Catherine Story

Lacrosse is a new sport to Lyndon State College. The team practices in the Stannard Gym, although they would like to get outside as soon as the weather begins to warm up a little.

Men's team struggling, looking for answers

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

The Lyndon State men's basketball team has been a streaky bunch all season. However, most of their streaks have been bad ones, including the stretch they're in right now.

The team has lost their last five games, as well as several of their top players as injuries and illnesses have hit the team hard late in the season.

"Injuries have been a huge problem with playing consistent basketball," Head Coach Randy Rathburn, said last week. "Consistency has been directly related to injury problems this year."

According to Rathburn, at one point last week he had only seven and five players dress for practice on back-to-back days. He said he had more players who were sick or injured on the sideline than players who were actually practicing.

"It's tough for us as coaches," Rathburn said. "I've never been in this position as a coach." He added that forward Noah Fink and guard Ryan Somers have been shut down for the rest of the year due to injuries. He said there was a slight chance that guard Andrew Longley might be able to play in the last two games, but only if he was completely healthy.

However, the struggles have been going on long before this recent bout with the injury bug. The team has been unable to put together a winning streak of more than two games all season long. This is in spite of some players having great seasons, such as sophomore forward Joe Visker, who's consistently scoring 15 to 20 points per game and junior center Kali Stoddard-Imari, who's averaging a double-double for the season.

"The talent we have hasn't played together very much," Rathburn said, adding that this includes returning players such as Somers and newcomers such as Fink and guard Cesar Martinez. "Playing together will help them for next year and the rest of this year."

One problem that Rathburn says has been plaguing the team all season has been at the point guard position.

"We haven't had a true point guard all year. Cesar and Ryan have done as good as they can given their now positions," Rathburn said.

Rathburn believes that his team can win the rest of their games this season by and putting in a consistent effort into every practice and game, and by competing hard in every game.

"Myself and the guys are very excited about what we can do. If we compete every game like we competed against Eastern Connecticut State, we can go 6-0 in our last six games," Rathburn said.

Senior captain Mike Paul feels that the team's struggles this year have come down to simply finishing games strong.

"We just can't finish. We're in a lot of games until the last two or three minutes, then the other team goes to the line," Paul said on the team's road trip last weekend to Maine.

"We've lost a lot of eight or ten-point games. A lot of the games we couldn't finish were against North Atlantic Conference teams."

Paul also discussed how the way the team plays affects the way it practices, as well as how the team needs to go into each game mentally ready to play.

"We practice the way we play. When we come mentally ready, we play really well, and when we don't come mentally ready, we don't," Paul said.

According to Paul, he believes the new players have meshed well with the team, and that most of them will be together for two to three years.

"The inconsistencies will work themselves out. I see this team doing really well. I think they can do some damage in the (North Atlantic) conference," Paul said.

As for the rest of this year, he believes that there's only one thing the team can do to try and make the USCAA tournament.

"Win out," he said with a laugh.

LSC Ski & Board Report

Resort	Recent Snow	Base	Open
	Vermont		
Burke Mtn.	10" in last 24 hours, 16" in last 48 hours	12-36" PDR/PP	45 trails, four lifts
Jay Peak	11" in last 24 hours	22-39" PDR/PP	74 trails, eight lifts
	New Hampshire		
Bretton Woods	9" each of last 2 days	36-50" PP/PDR	98 trails, six lifts
Attitash	8" in last 24 hours,	20-64" PDR/PP	75 trails, six lifts
	Maine		
Sunday River	8" in last 24 hours, 14" in last 48 hours	26-48" PDR/PP	129 trails, 12 lifts
Sugarloaf	4" in last 48 hours	20-45" PP/PDR	122 trails, 10 lifts

Notes: PP: Packed powder. PDR: Powder. FRGR: Frozen granular. LSGR: Loose granular. **Source:** snocountry.com. Conditions as of Thursday afternoon. For more information about lift ticket prices and the latest snow and weather conditions, please call your mountain of choice or visit its website.

Upcoming Events

Basketball: 2/10 vs. UMaine-Presque Isle, women @ 1 p.m.; 2/16 vs. Green Mountain College, women @ 2 p.m., men @ 4 p.m.; 2/20 vs. New Hampshire Technical Institute, women @ 6 p.m., men @ 8 p.m. (Senior Night)

Hockey: 2/9 vs. Alumni, 3:30 p.m.; vs. Daniel Webster College, date TBD

Note: Home basketball games held at the Stannard Gymnasium. Home hockey games held at the Fenton Chester Arena (across from LI). Game times subject to change.

THE CRITIC

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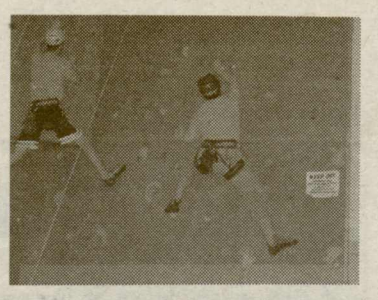


LSC's own Outing Club makes use of the climbing wall in the Rita Bole gym. Read all about it on pg. 2

Ambassador of Kazakhstan visits Lyndon

Photo by Heather Perkins

Ambassador Byrganym Aitmova stands with Professor Alexandre Strokanov, after he was bestowed with a Kazakhstan national gift, in the form of special vestments for his friendship and endless interest to the country.

By Heather Perkins
Special to The Critic

Kazakhstani Ambassador, Byrganym Aitmova, put her knowledge about her country's growth out for students and professors alike to hear, expanding the minds of everyone present in the Alexander Twilight Theatre.

Her Excellency's presentation was lighthearted and full of depth that pushed several biases out of mind.

The country of Kazakhstan has been independent of Soviet Russia for 16 years now, keeping the same president that had been elected over that time, turning more and more towards a stronger democracy.

The country is multinational, multicultural, and multireligious, Aitmova said. They respect all religions, but do not support any, and avoid the more aggressive ones.

"We are like a smart animal, we try to be milked from all the good mothers, so we try to be well partnered in Asia, and of course we're good a partner, advanced partner in Europe too. It keeps us more movement into our high, high development," Aitmova said about the country's development. They have relations with countries all around the world, 150 being diplomatic.

When asked about the popular movie "Borat," Aitmova asked in return how the United States population reacted to the movie. She then responded, "We called it a joke."

Aitmova sent a message back home to her government, urging them to send students to LSC.

The country has free higher education, trying to bring in new opportunities for them: education, science, high technologies, striving to be an individual and realize themselves. "We would like to use alternative sources. We would like to keep our country a green country with a good environment. And you know, three years ago, the president supported the idea to bring all young people to make their country a green country, and millions of trees were planted during these two years."

Everyone wanted to take place in this action, she said.

With the country sitting between two larger countries, they share a mix of those around them.

It is one of seven of the largest oil exporters, as well as having 99 of 105 raw elements from our periodic table in their country. They are fighting terrorism, illegal drugs, and extremist separatism.

Aitmova is the current Ambassador of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the United Nations. She started her career as a teacher, speaks a handful of languages, and is married with two children.

Stonehenge to get $1 million booster shot

By Ben Holbrook
Managing Editor

The poor conditions of the Stonehenge residence halls prompted LSC to budget $1,000,000 in order to renovate the buildings in an effort to make them more energy efficient and more accommodating to students.

The plans to renovate Stonehenge are still being planned out due to the fact that with limited resources, LSC can only focus on the most crucial renovations, Tom Archer, Physical Plant Director, said. Initially the school wanted to restructure the buildings entirely but soon realized that the money would not be sufficient for such a task, Archer said.

The most important renovation to the Stonehenge buildings would be to make them more energy efficient since the school burns roughly 220,000 gallons of oil each year, and spends around $40,000 a month for the electric bill. "All the dorms have heating controls which were installed in the past five years," Archer said. "The boiler rooms were also insulated in order to keep the heat from traveling up into the dorm rooms which forced students to open their windows, which in turn triggered the boilers to produce more heat due to cold air flowing into the Arnold building."

All of the windows in the Stonehenge buildings have been measured so that they can be replaced in the future which will cost about $250,000 for all six buildings, Archer said. The lighting will also be changed to make it more efficient, lowering the electric bill.

Aesthetically, each building will have new carpeting, paint, and flooring in places where it is the worst, Archer said. Not all buildings can be completely renovated due to the limited funding.

A new RA office/on call room would also be a possible addition to the buildings although it is not guaranteed that such a change could be made, Archer said.

A large portion of the renovations that will be made were issues brought up by students, Archer said. "We have to listen to the students as to what their needs are in Stonehenge," Archer said.

LSC received money from the state which was then distributed for the new building in front of Vail, upgrading HAC, and to do the renovations in Stonehenge, Archer said. Right now in regards to the renovations, "We are in a budgeting phase," Archer said.

To be able to completely restructure each Stonehenge building would be ideal although it would eat into the budget too quickly due to the fact that everything has to be up to code, which would include installing an elevator which costs about $300,000, Archer said.

Photo by Ryan Lee

The money to pay for the Stonehenge renovations is part of a $13 million bond approved last semester by the VSC Board of Trustees. The remaining $12 million will go to a new academic building, along with renovations to HAC and the Vail parking lot.

The club that is getting out on campus

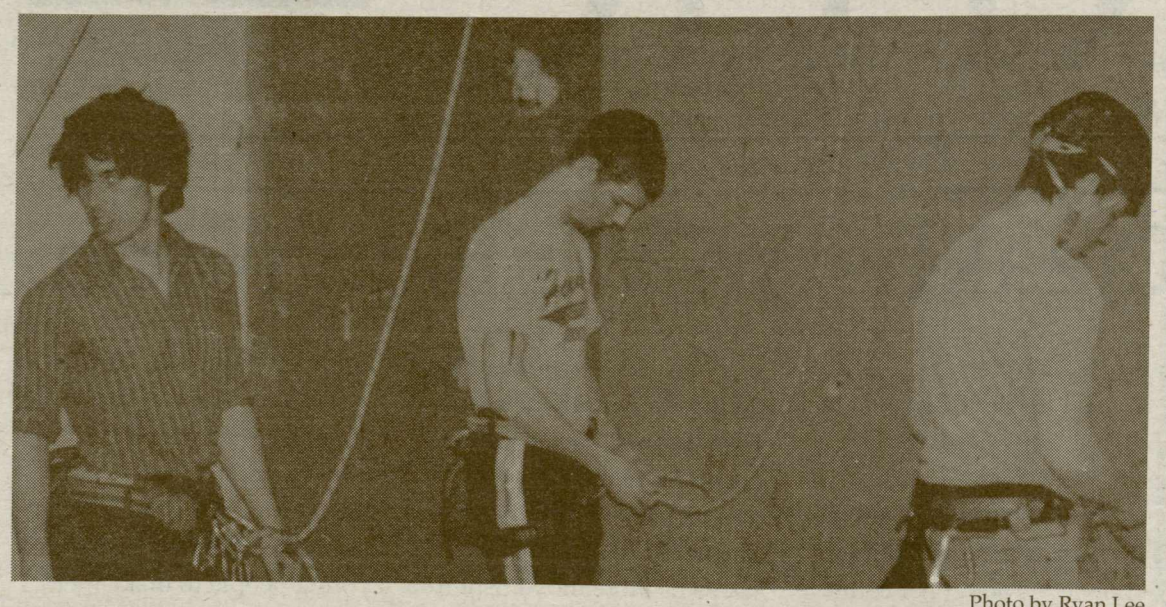


Photo by Ryan Lee

Outing Club members strap in before climbing the wall in the Rita Bole Gymnasium.

By Jennifer Ingram
Critic Staff

The Lyndon Outing Club is one of the many clubs around campus that is geared towards students involved in activities and keeping them active.

Members meet every Tuesday in the Rita Bole Gym at 8 p.m. to use the climbing wall, and in the HAC lounge prior at 7 p.m.

"While the climbing wall may be popular now, it has potential to be huge," Jameson Kneeland, House Representative and secretary of the Outing Club, said. "Because it's so small we can have a lot of people milling around waiting to get on it. We could easily fill up a wall three times its size."

The Outing Club is a student run club that provides opportunities for the LSC community to engage in outdoor activities and take part in what the Northeast Kingdom has to offer. It is a club that hosts activities that have to do with environmental issues.

"Being a student run club it gives officers a great deal of experience in leadership positions, organizing events and budgeting," David Coyne said. Coyne is the vice president of the Outing Club and acts as one of the trip organizers/ trip leaders.

The Outing Club takes part in many activities. Many of the activities take place off campus however, there are many activities that take place on campus.

"We've got all sorts of outings going on this winter/ spring," Coyne said.

"Activities that are currently being planned are swift water rescue certification course guest speakers for Earth Week.

People should come to the meetings or wall to find out what's going on," Coyne said.

Another activity that is being tentatively planned is a college-wide climbing competition on the wall according to Kneeland.

The Outing Club has been involved in activities such as, rock climbing, ice climbing, mountaineering, hiking, backpacking, white water kayaking, canoeing, backcountry skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, mountain biking, and extreme kite flying.

In the past outings that members of the Outing Club took part in were trips to:

Mount Hor

White Mountains

Wheeler Mountain

Echo of Franconia Notch, NH

Overnight trip to Jay Peak on the Long Trail

Kayaking on the West River Whitewater in Jamaica, Vt.

The Outing Club has hosted many events such as,

The Meathead Films premier of their new east coast ski flick 'Wanderland'.

Photo by Ryan Lee

An Outing Club member climbs the rock wall in the Rita Bole gym.

Photo by Ryan Lee

Member practices on the rock wall on campus.

Get free tickets to the gun show in the Fitness Center

By Amanda Wozniak
Special to the Critic

Personal fitness instruction can range from $35-$50 per hour in Vermont, but at LSC it's free.

The Exercise Science Department offers free instruction for personal fitness Tuesday through Friday to all students, faculty, staff and members. The fitness trainers focus on creating an individualized regiment for each person.

Fitness Facility Coordinator and Health Promotions Specialist Gregory Ledoux said, "It's an individualized program based on you and what you want to do." The trainers help people set goals and reach them.

The service is part of the practicum class within the Exercise Science program. There are currently four seniors, Benjamin Stacy, Shane Meaney, Eric Gagne, Brynna Considine, and LSC graduate Adrian Guyer working as personal trainers for this service. They are all National Strength Condition Association (NSCA) Certified Personal Trainers. The trainers maintain consistent hours each week. Each individual session is planned for an hour time slot.

Ledoux said that everyone working in the fitness center, including the receptionist, is in the Exercise Science department so they're all there to help users of the fitness center, but personal training is the next level of instruction.

"It's a great opportunity for students. It gives us a professional atmosphere and allows us to work one on one with clients and see their progress," Meaney said.

Guyer is working as a Fitness Facility Coordinator/ Strength Conditioning Coach focusing on athletes through a paid internship. "We're trying to promote professionalism," Guyer said. Based on the last four years Guyer said he has never seen as dedicated training as he has this year.

The LSC graduate said that the growth and success of this program will bring positive attention to the Exercise Science department at LSC. "It [the program] helps LSC stand out in the community," Meaney said. "Our main goal is to get more of the community involved." Community members that purchase a membership to the LSC fitness facility can take advantage of this free service.

Currently Ledoux estimates that only half of their session times are in use and that 60 percent of the people signed up for the free service are faculty and staff with only 40 percent being students.

Interested people can sign up for a time slot in the fitness center at the reception desk.

What someone signing up for a session could expect:

A Health Screening: filling out a health history form to let your trainer know of any pre-existing medical conditions.

Goal Setting: letting your personal trainer know why you're there, whether it is to lose inches or gain them.

Fitness Testing: this consists of a mile run/walk, push up and sit up tests as well as a flexibility test, such as sit and reach. This gives your trainer an idea of your base line or at what level to begin.

Body Analysis: figuring out your body's percentage of fat if it's part of your goal to decrease it.

Your trainer can alter these steps to fit your specific needs. Once the steps are completed your trainer uses the information to create an exercise regimen specific to you. Usually after six weeks on the program the trainer will make an evaluation of your progress and alter your exercise regiment as needed.

Holy Sheet

Every man's fantasy

By Jordan Royer
Critic Columnist

College, where dreams come true…or do they? Every man's fantasy, or at least mine and the two other guys sitting next to me in the lab, is to have a threesome.

I am not sure exactly what about having a threesome is so appealing. Well, actually I know just what it is, said best by Double Mint gum- it's double the fun. Just think about it. Do you like breasts? if so, four surely beats two. And your options instantly double. A threesome is like multi-tasking at its best.

College is said to be the place where your dreams are fulfilled and where you build for your future. Well I know one thing, I am just a few short months from graduation and I have yet to enjoy college to the fullest, if you catch my drift. But I guess I shouldn't complain, mostly for the fact I have never actually approached two women about the possibility of a threesome. I guess I should probably start there. Maybe all that porn I watch has altered my perception of getting multiple women in the bed. I mean, for those guys it's easy, they walk on the set and the women are there. It would be like me coming home from class one day and having two girls pleasuring each other in my bed, begging me to join. Damn porn and all its false hopes.

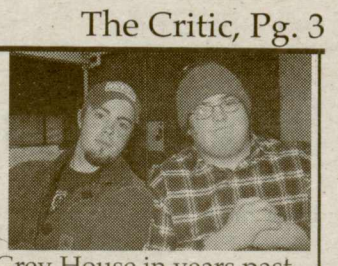
Well Cupid once again avoided me with that silly little arrow, so I again spent Valentine's Day solo. At least this year I didn't spend it in the hospital. Don't go getting any crazy ideas, like I got my penis stuck some where silly out of sexual frustration of being alone, because that wasn't the case, I simply cut my hand open on a piece of wood.

Anyway, I will leave you with this- strive for your dreams, no matter what they are, and not just in the bedroom. College is the place to fulfill some dreams and build your future- don't wait around, your time here will pass quickly.

Position of the week- Sitting Bull

Making it our business

A Reaction to the Mr. Lyndon contest



By Nathaniel Champagne
Critic Columnist

For anyone that picked up an issue of The Critic last week, I'm sure you saw the front page with its picture of Mr. Lyndon. What few know is the story going on behind Mr. Lyndon. The CAB sanctioned event went off without a hitch, crowning Dave Marks for his lip-syncing and beat-boxing skills. Though, it is the story of Timothy Kemp who was not allowed to participate that this article will focus on.

For those who don't know, Timmy Kemp is an outstanding individual with a 2.6 GPA, involved in many clubs and even writes for this paper. Even though Timmy Kemp went to all the meetings, while some competitors did not attend, he still received an e-mail the night before the competition telling him he did not meet the criteria to compete. He has since received no such written criteria by which one could determine eligibility.

"I felt discriminated against when I found out that I was replaced by someone who showed up ten minutes before show time", Kemp said. "The contest cannot be considered legitimate because not everyone who wanted got to compete".

After meeting with RHD Brandon Buckley, Timmy was told that due to events in the Grey House in years past, Brandon had decided that Timmy was too susceptible to peer pressure to let him compete. Buckley continued to say that at first there were too many people interested in competing but by the time the show rolled around there were few competitors to be found. However, a friend and Mr. Lyndon presenter Christopher Arsenault has come forth in saying, "Brandon didn't want Timmy competing because he took his shirt off at the talent show." Though if this is truly the reason behind Kemp's dismissal from the competition then it raises the question, if we can sell chocolate penises and vaginas for Valentines Day why can't we deal with seeing Timmy with his shirt off?

The definite reason which has still yet to be determined aside, the manner in which it was handled and inquiries into it were met with hostility and insult. "I hope that the people reading this will understand what kind of people are organizing the events we end up paying for," said Kemp. Considering our tuition is what pays for the dorms and the jobs of the people that run them, I feel as though we deserve better answers then what I got from Brandon Buckley and Jonathan Davis and I quote, "It's none of your business." Well, we're making it our business.

Moments Like These

Searching for home

By Trish Pennypacker
Critic Columnist

I was born a Vermonter but my roots lie neither here nor there. For the first twelve years of my life I lived in the same house but alternated between public, Christian, and home school.

When I hit puberty my dad hit a religious high: fanatical most people would call it. "Cultish," my grandmother said. Up went my hair behind a head covering. Down went the hemline on my handmade skirts. Out came my tender roots from the native soil.

It was 1987. My father and a few like-minded men were revolting against governmental and religious authority.

High on biblical interpretation and disgusted with world greed they began to question their existence. "Lay not up for yourself treasures upon earth. Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body what ye shall put on. For your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of these things," or so Matthew 6 says. And thus my world changed.

My father gave up his business first, then electricity, our furniture, our house, our cars, and all but essential belongings. Nothing prepared me for this "simpler" kind of life, but with blind faith I drifted down the Eastern seacoast, rolled with the stern tide of subordination, an ephemeral moonbeam between child and woman. Of which purpose I didn't understand.

People called us gypsies. And so we were. Pale, blue-eyed misfits traveling in a caravan of buses, sneaking glances through faded curtains at the grey, vast modern world: big hair and acid washed jeans, leather bomber jackets and knit miniskirts. But we were the merchants cast into the sea. We had given up materialism for the spiritual life, although it was sometimes hidden behind flea market jockeys, apron pockets jingling with change and banana boxes full of wares to sell. In time the smell of asphalt erased memories of fresh lilac blossoms in the New England air; the booming voices of vendors overshadowed the somber sounds of preachers, although each were skilled in the trade of deceit.

And so it went. Mile after mile across the United States, green hills turned to red dust in a blank horizon; swamplands held the tide brackish, rancid and still; the thick desperation of the overgrown inland left me homesick before endless tall-grass prairies bowed to hard mountains. I was nothing but a pod-less milkweed, a spur-less sandspur, a tumbleweed in the wind.

But somewhere in the endless knot of landscape, beyond the symbolic skirts and head coverings (Yes! We are God's people!) the exoteric meant nothing. The slow possession the earth took upon my soul could not be measured by distance.

That a consecrated beauty beyond the flaws of humanity exists, and I became aware of such beauty, was more inspiring than the Scriptures.

For years I hid this revelation. All of it. There was no forgiveness for falling to my knees at the glory of a sunset, or realizing that the hawk had more meaning to his flight than our own exodus as upside-down birds, eyes on a heaven.

But my own heaven was shuffled into the dust from which all life begins and ends. I paid my reverence to purple mountains and restless prairie, a multi-colored and unparalleled sanctuary.

I wish I could say that my father found his peace beyond the endless highway; that shedding the need for authority and materialism gave him the key to Paradise. But this is not true.

My father was ultimately a provider, and his God could only provide insomuch as my father himself could provide. Many of my father's questions went unanswered. To him, who had surrendered so much, this was the ultimate failure. That my father questioned was not his sin. As Barbara Kingsolver says, "Questioning our government's actions does not violate the principles of liberty, equality, and freedom of speech; it exercises them and by exercise we grow stronger."

Inadvertently, this truth was borne out. Years on the road took its toll on my family. Faith was singularly important; tested endlessly it was forgotten. And grief that extended beyond the earth was imparted on a man without a home, without answers, without faith. The same furtive quest that weakened my father's spirit expanded and strengthened my own.

My wild longing to belong somewhere faded. I had as much right to belong to any one place as the tumbleweed. The earth is not mine to have, to possess, and yet my roots so long ago uprooted, have flourished like tillandsia.

Certainly time has turned the whispers, stares, and misunderstandings of my nomadic life to insignificance, the harsh realities of the world to wonders. In the great misty air of living I come back to Vermont. For within a great part of me, Vermont is the place I call home.

Smoking vs. non-smoking

Dear Editor,

As we all are well aware of, the campus' non-smoking policy is now very well established. Many smokers can be seen on the fringes of the student parking lots indulging in their selected habit. There is something about this that troubles me. I feel that forcing people to exclusively smoke in the parking lot is a violation of that person's right to treat their body as their own.

I understand that smoking vs. not smoking is not defined by our constitution; I do believe however, that the men who wrote it (many with pipes in hand) would agree that if it is not harming anyone besides the individual smoking, there shouldn't be a problem. Those who run the country evidently agree because smoking has not been completely condemned by local governments (although many have banned it within the confines of public buildings). This brings to light the reasonability of not allowing smoking in restaurants, classrooms, and public entrances. There should be, however, places for students to go that is easily accessible on campus. These places should be understood as places where people can go to smoke; people therefore will be able to avoid the offense of having to smell or walkthrough someone's secondhand smoke.

This is indeed the way it was before. Smokers were not heading to the rules, however, so the powers that be decided to go with plan B. This is unfair for those who did obey the rules; it is a classic case of punishing a large number for a small number's infractions. There should be some way to keep smokers to their allotted areas without banishing them from the grounds. If people decided to do something about that problems, then a happy medium could be found. Those who would smoke in the areas where it was prohibited would be well aware of the existing penalty for such an act, and would possibly think it wiser to smoke within the reasonable areas provided for them.

This ban could also produce some directly negative effects on the campus itself. One is that some students, who chose to smoke between classes, may be late for those classes which follow their break. I understand that this is their choice, but people's work places oftentimes allow smoke breaks, and those places are paying them to be their. If students are paying money, under the impression that they will be able to smoke on campus, then they should be allowed to do so. This leads to the next problem. Those of us who enrolled in this college were under the impression that we could smoke on the grounds when we decided to sign our promissory notes. I'm not saying that this affected my decision to come here (I commute). I do remember when I selected a college fresh out of high school, under the impression that I would be living there. I know, then, that I would not have gone to a college where I couldn't step out of my dorm and have a cigarette. I would not have expected to be able to smoke in the dorms (out of respect for those who oppose); I would have expected a place where I would be allowed to do so, however (out of reciprocated respect). This decision may indeed prove ill for those students who are looking for a place to enjoy their college experience.

Scott Richard

Letter Policy:

The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must include the author's phone number and address. The Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:

critic@lyndonstate.edu
or
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Dear John: Heels are irrelevant

By Riché Pinchingpenny
Critic Columnist

I want to talk about apparel.

Those hastily shed piles of disgust before a big date, an important interview, an encounter with an ex. Nothing seems to fit when I want it to, but shoes never let me down.

I love high heels. I am not a tall woman. I wear them for height dammit!

But a guy ruined high heels for me. He loves the way my ass sways when I walk in heels. He foams at the mouth when my boots peek out from the hem of my jeans. My god, you'd have thought I'd flashed a boob! Oh, I suppose I can see the attraction in a pair of heels: curves, smoothness, danger. Better yet, no opinions or emotions. But how would he feel if I only noticed the bulge in his pants; based his entire worth on a few wobbly inches?

This guy isn't my lover. I don't give a damn what he thinks about my body. That he's suddenly made me self conscious of my body is the shame. "It's for the best," I grumble, slipping my feet into a pair of sneakers; he won't leer at me today.

For the best….? Sonofabitch! I'm doing it again. It was "for the best" when my ex told me to lose a few pounds; it was "for the best" when he brought hard core porn into the bedroom. "Come on Baby. Try to act like you enjoy it." (Don't get me wrong, I love erotica. Watching women grimace while blinking back eyefuls of cum? (Turn on Jeopardy.) Maybe if I got a better job, took more time off, and giggled more it would also be for the best. I dumped the man. Who needs the shit?

Being single, I found something admirable: I like my perfectly imperfect self. I like the way my body moves, soft under my own fingertips, slow and unrushed; I like wine more than beer, the Yankees more than the Red Sox; it's ok to be lazy on Sunday mornings; and I can stack a neat cord of firewood. Heels are irrelevant.

"Ally" response

Dear Editor,

I recently was reading an article in your paper entitled "'Ally what is it and who are they?" I found it quite informative, considering its length. Though why I am writing is in response to one sentence in the article. "Unfortunately, the only way for new faculty to find out about Ally is through word of mouth." I consider this quite a problem for many reasons. One reason is the Ally program is for members of the faculty, staff, and the Lyndon State community at large to have understanding and trained people to talk to individuals struggling with Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and/or Transgender issues. It is also formed to distinguish members of the community that are willing to talk with others to help advise them in most neediest times. Though the problem I have with this is that whenever I see a sign posted on a door around campus, I don't know whom that person is and might not be inclined to ask around in fear of embarrassing myself. So what I would like to propose is that someone in the community or the people involved in this program make it more well known and present themselves as "Allies" in the community. This would thereby incline members of the community to take advantage of this program as well as promote newer members of the community to consider being involved themselves.

Thanks,
Micheal Hannan

The Student Nation

The Nation is offering an online subscription to The Student Nation. This weekly magazine is offered for free to students across the nation. Sign up at www.studentnation.us.

The Nation was first published in 1865, making it America's oldest weekly magazine.

Information regarding LSC's Portner Prize

Attention juniors and seniors:

Through the generosity of Professors Richard and Terry Portner, an endowment has been created that offers recognition of consistent interest and achievement in the Fine and Performing Arts at LSC. This may include course work, community service, internships, and extra-curricular participation in the disciplines of Music, Art, and/or Theater.

The Portner Prize is offered to Juniors and Seniors and will include a cash award that can be used as the student chooses. To be considered students will :

Submit a cover letter summarizing their involvement in the Arts

Prepare a brief explanation of why the Fine & Performing Arts are important to self, community, curriculum, etc.

Include a resume, portfolio or DVD, CD, etc., of their work.

The prize will be awarded at the Rising Student awards ceremony on March 26, 2008. Please send your cover letters and materials to Pat Webster at the Samuel Read Hall Library, or electronically in an attachment to patricia.webster@lsc.vsc.edu. The deadline is March 10, 2008.

Professor visits Poynter Institute

By Norman Johnson
Critic Staff

Charlotte Albright, Lyndon State College assistant professor of Television Studies, is attending a seminar at the Poynter Institute in St. Petersburg, Fla. this week to study the evolving resources needed to prepare the new journalist for this rapidly changing industry.

Albright and 22 other educators from around the U.S. and the world are enrolled in: "Multi-media for College Educators," a four day, 10 hours per day seminar.

Enrollment in Poynter seminars is selective, not all applicants are accepted, Albright said.

"Some are coming from a print background and want to help their students learn how to create online versions of college publications, like newspapers," Albright said.

"Others, like me, are broadcast professors who want to teach storytelling in more than one medium, helping students to combine writing, audio, video, and graphics to expand the range of choices we have to engage an online audience.

"Here at LSC, News 7 reporters need to learn how to contribute video to converging media environments, and to re-shape their stories and scripts for the web," Albright said.

Albright looked to the street for raw material prior to the seminar. She was working on a video "of a guy I spotted on a street corner giving directions to tourists. He's homeless and can't figure out a better way to spend his time on the streets; quite a character, and a contrast to the affluence of this booming city." Albright said.

"If I manage to cobble some sort of multi-media story together I will try to drop it into Blackboard and get my students' feedback at the end of the week before I come home."

"Teaching by blog, you might say," Albright said.

Up until now, journalists have been relatively focused in newspaper, radio, or television.

Today, that concept is changing rapidly.

As independent newspapers and broadcasters are bought up by large conglomerates, some with agendas, profitability and technology is dictating what careers in the emerging newsroom will look like, especially for the small independent media company.

"Media companies are reorganizing their businesses. People who can function on all platforms will get the job, or keep their jobs when downsizing happens," Dan Williams, LSC assistant professor of English/journalism with 13 years experience with CNN, said.

The Poynter Institute was originally founded as the Modern Media Institute, by the late Nelson Poynter, a publisher who believed passionately that good journalism and good business are directly related. The non-profit institute today is funded by profits from the Times Publishing Co., which is the St. Petersburg Times, Congressional Quarterly, and the Florida Times magazine.

Some students prefer to live off-campus

By Catherine Story
Critic Staff

Living off campus has its perks and it's downfalls for LSC students.

"I learned a lot about how to behave if I don't want to get anything done," Nate Puza, a ski resort management major, said. "We had a lot of parties."

Puza, a senior, lived in two dorms on the LSC campus Crevecour and Rita bole. He has lived off campus for two years.

"I was a little too old to have so many rules," Puza said. "I didn't need someone breathing down my neck about a six-pack in my room."

Sometimes living off campus is not all fun and games.

"I have missed school because I didn't feel like driving," Puza said. "Then again I've missed school to go fishing.".

"When the weather is crappy it's a pain," Puza said.

"It's also hard to remember to go grocery shopping," Puza said. "I've been eating a lot healthier. I just love having a kitchen. Cooking is something I love."

A group of students have moved in just down the street from campus in an apartment they call "Shredville".

"It's awesome I feel so free," Ryan Brainard, a ski resort management major, said.

"I live with a bunch of gnarly kids who like to shred."

Each student living in "Shredville" pays $275 which includes heat and water.

"It's cheaper," Brainard said. "I didn't like Public Safety and I wanted my own room."

Another themed home off campus is called the Slanty-Shanty.

"We call our place the Slanty-Shanty because the foundation is really bad," Joe Mula, a senior recreation major said.

"The floors are warped," Mula said. "All of the support beams are supported by car jacks."

There are four jacks holding up the floors.

"If we feel the floor needs to be adjusted we just jack it up a little." Mula said.

The Slanty-Shanty is in West Burke which can be a hike from the Lyndon state campus on winter days.

"Driving to campus is kind of a hassle when the roads are bad," Mula said "It's hard having to drive from parties."

"It's also hard having to pay for oil," Mula said.

Even if the house is slanty there are perks to being off campus.

"You can have a girl over without asking your roommate to leave," Mula said. "You can also cook your own means instead of eating Aramark.

"I like not having to worry about breaking any rules like no lighting candles," Mula said.

Lyndon State College bio professor does a little land lording on the side

By Norman Johnson
Critic Staff

David Conant, professor of biology at Lyndon State College, never started out to be a landlord.

However, after he and his wife bought a house, he was persuaded "to do some management" by his mother-in-law, who had been successful in real estate.

David and Minty Conant began renting apartments in 1980. They now own two rental buildings below the college in Lyndon Center.

One is a converted barn and house with nine living units, the other is a duplex.

The apartments, rented by teachers, students, working people and families, range in size from one bedroom units, to units half the size of a house.

The apartments rent from $495 to $695 per month. Conant requires a signed lease agreement and a security deposit, equal to one month's rent.

He doesn't include an often required first and last month's rent though, "We never got into that," Conant said.

Conant has three basic rules for renters: pay your rent, respect your neighbors, and respect the property. He doesn't tollerate large parties either.

"When I get a complaint from a tenant that they can't sleep or can't find a parking spot, I have to respond," Conant said. Those problems have been infrequent over the years.

Recently though, he has had to address the problem of people not listed in the lease agreement moving in with others.

Being an apartment owner isn't only about collecting rent. "I spend quite a bit of time doing maintenance," Conant said.

A full-time college instructor, Conant does most of the work himself during vacations often an apartment at a time.

Conant's upcoming summer agenda includes digging out foundations for perimeter drains to correct water problems in the basement.

Maintenance is expensive, even when he does the work himself. Smoke detectors had to be installed directly connected to house power, not just battery.

A stairwell had to be rebuilt to withstand a potential one hour fire, a fire code called a "one hour enclosure."

That meant installing expensive one hour fireproof doors and the walls had to be resurfaced with double layers of 5/8 inch sheetrock.

"That's how I spent my winter break; hanging sheetrock," Conant said of a past vacation.

Disaster doesn't keep to a schedule either. "I got a call at a new year's eve party that the sewer was backing up into the basement," Conant said.

"I spent the rest of the night with Roto-Rooter."

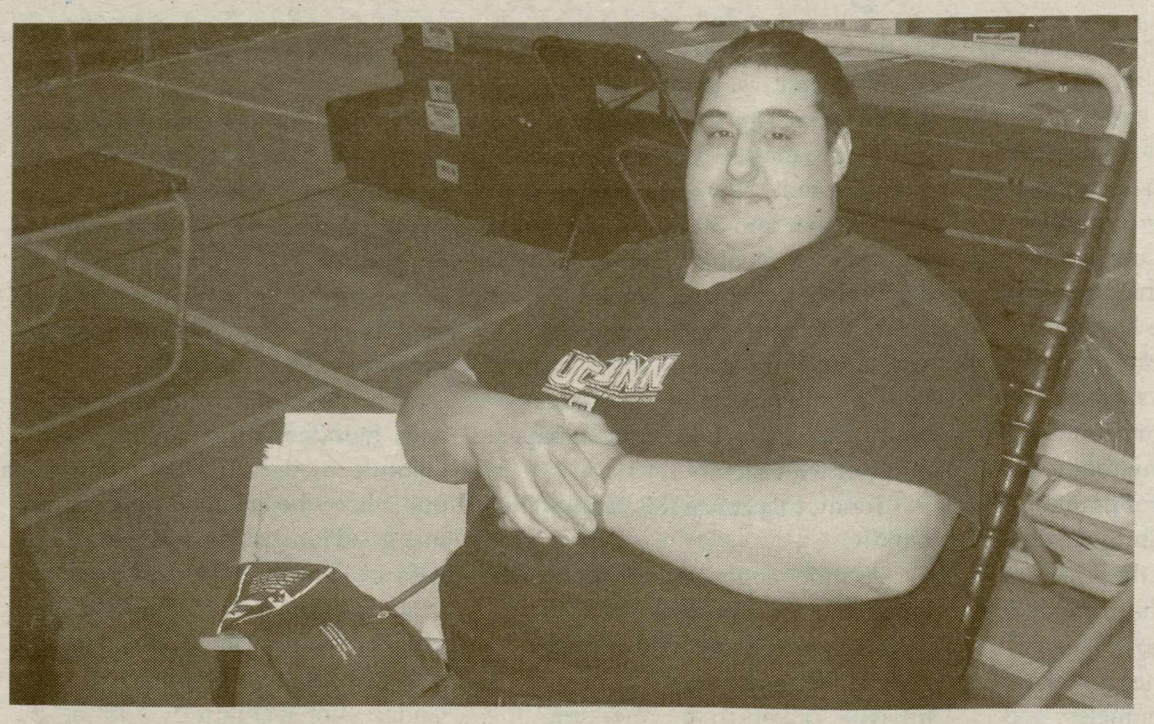
The problem turned out to be a collapsed ancient sewer pipe in the yard under the snow that had to be dug out with a back-hoe.

In spite of the hassles, Conant remains upbeat. "I like the diversity. We provide a service, good for a lot of people."

Over the years he has also become good at carpentry and skills beyond the field of biology.

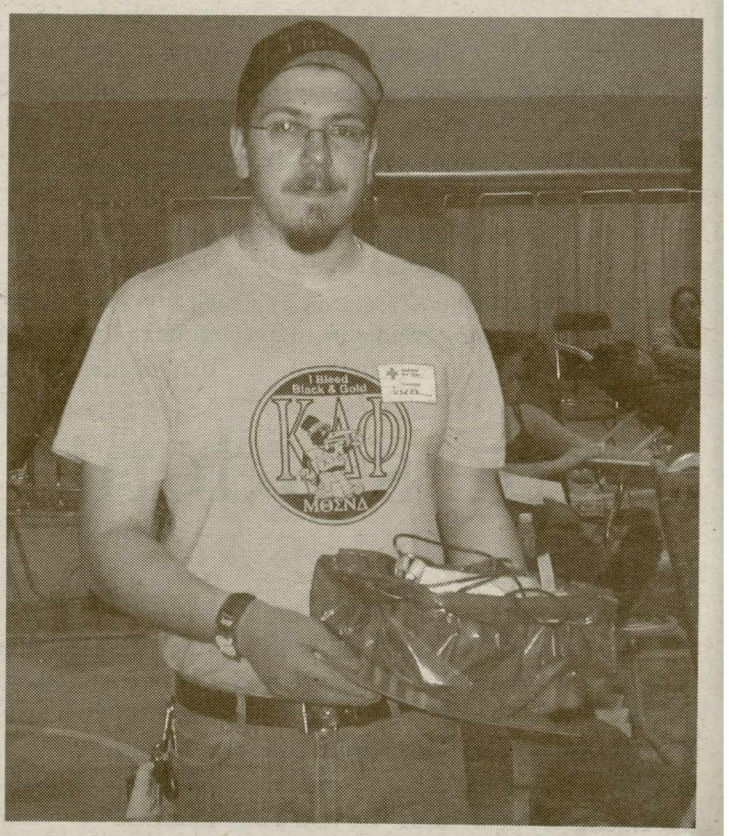
"I'm a pretty good plumber," Conant laughs.

Community gathers in gym to donate blood



This is Pete McKinney's 13th time giving a double red cell donation, a process that runs a person's blood through a machine which separates the plasma from the red blood cells, enabling the donor to give their yearly maximum of blood in half the time.

"Most of the time the American Red Cross calls me for an appointment," McKinney said. Because the process is more involved than a typical donation, the Red Cross prefers that people make appointments. Still, if there's an open seat, walk-ins are welcome.



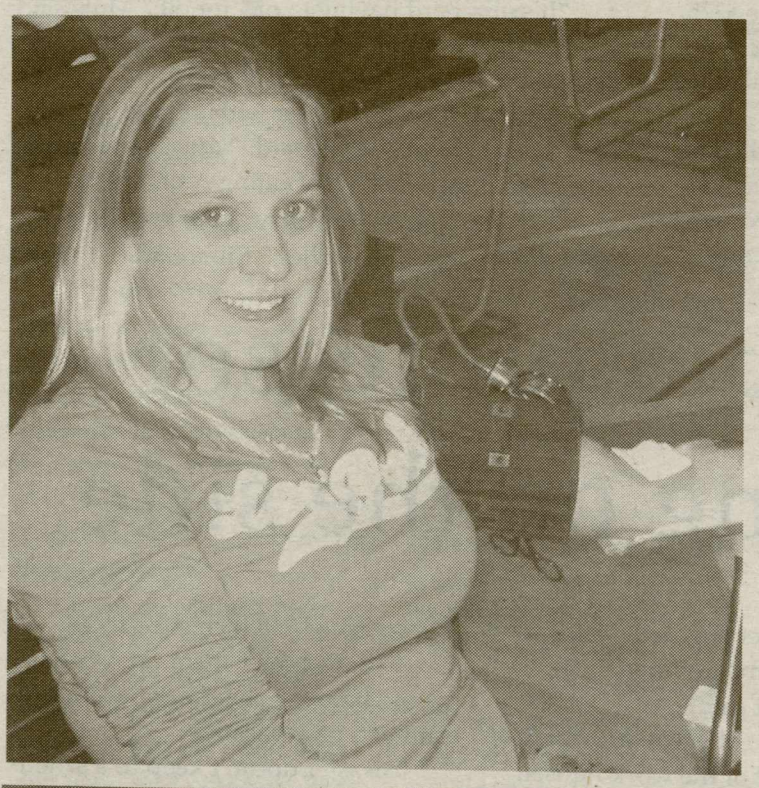
Kate Gold, student success specialist at LSC, has given blood three times so far, owing to the fact that the Red Cross's LSC blood drives are easy to get to for her. "It was the first time I could just walk down the hall and give blood," Gold said.

Gold has some advice for other donors: Hydrate. Her first time donating wasn't as smooth as she would have liked. "I was a little dehydrated, so it was harder to get the blood out," Gold said.

"The first time was rather traumatic, but I'll keep coming back anyway."

Derek Palmieri, a member of Kappa Delta Phi and an LSC student, donated his time as well as his blood to the Red Cross. He and the other members of his fraternity contacted the Red Cross when they heard the blood drive was coming through.

"We're just really trying hard to get a more positive view in the community," Palmieri said.



Serena Franks isn't sure if this is her third or fourth time giving blood, but "It's just really nice to think you can do something so giving," Franks said.

"I did it at my high school the first time, and then here everytime after that."

Serena heard about the Red Cross's reported blood shortage on the radio and thought she would give.

Although she has tried in the past, this is Samantha Winsor's first time successfully donating blood. A low iron count kept her from qualifying in the past. "It was very discouraging," Winsor said, but she kept trying because "My friend does it all the time."

"It was easy, and I thought I'd contribute to society," Willow, a sophomore, said.

This is her fourth time donating blood and her second semester at LSC.

Willow isn't picky about where she gives blood, attending whichever drive is nearest.

Keith Maybury, a local resident, also heard the Red Cross was having a shortage and decided he would give blood that very day.

"The cookies are always good," Maybury said.

"This quote is intended to be a quote of itself only. No one has actually said this exact statement, as far as *I* know."

Warm, Cozy, Snuggly Word Find

H	Z	T	Z	G	H	C	C	R	N	Q	C	N	L	O	A	G	Q	Y	S	G	L	R	C	U
N	G	Q	Q	X	A	S	G	F	K	Y	K	W	L	H	S	M	K	W	N	G	W	S	B	O
Q	D	H	U	V	G	V	Z	Z	Q	W	F	C	A	I	T	S	C	T	O	B	Y	N	B	D
U	M	U	P	E	L	D	A	E	W	J	H	W	F	S	B	J	E	I	W	G	W	O	B	B
W	L	X	F	A	K	M	B	L	T	U	S	N	W	J	T	I	I	X	B	V	H	W	F	X
R	B	Y	B	L	Q	A	Q	T	A	I	S	U	O	J	W	Y	M	A	A	N	S	S	L	I
I	K	U	E	E	K	W	L	S	U	N	H	V	N	Y	R	O	L	T	L	V	U	H	U	L
V	F	W	P	Y	A	M	E	F	O	D	C	W	S	A	T	Y	D	D	L	L	T	O	R	F
T	Q	R	S	M	P	I	P	N	W	Z	S	H	W	H	Q	X	T	K	Y	D	B	V	R	L
T	O	Z	D	Y	C	H	H	V	C	O	Q	L	E	O	A	R	G	V	R	Z	I	E	I	F
X	J	P	L	E	U	G	J	H	S	E	N	K	E	Q	N	V	U	S	U	M	Q	L	E	R
Z	B	H	S	N	O	W	J	O	B	Y	U	S	S	E	F	S	D	Z	F	F	O	M	S	L
C	A	T	I	D	V	Q	I	Z	Z	X	Q	F	A	P	T	E	Q	E	U	A	R	R	U	D
Y	E	L	L	O	W	S	N	O	W	L	W	T	A	C	T	D	W	A	F	B	O	E	D	O
O	O	K	D	G	D	G	K	N	A	B	W	O	N	S	M	P	A	N	S	D	L	O	C	R
X	Z	C	E	I	M	G	D	L	T	W	B	B	D	G	K	O	C	P	P	Q	X	V	N	N
Y	S	N	O	W	M	O	B	I	L	E	O	N	T	S	Q	C	D	M	W	B	G	A	J	K

Snowflake Snowball Snow job Snowfall Snowmobile Avalanche
Snow Shovel Snow Bank Snow White Yellow Snow Cold Snap
Ice Sleet Flurries

Hard enough for ya'?

Sudoku Puzzle

						3		
5		7			9			4
3			7			8	9	
7		5	6	2				
6								1
				8	5	7		6
	5	3			4			8
8			5			1		9
		2						

Holy Horoscopes, Batman! According to this, you need to use more spices!

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 19): You're going to RAISE Cain over the next few days. Be kind and recommend to your friends that they avoid you over the next few days. Oh, and you may fart a lot.

TAURUS (Apr 20-May 20): You'll find yourself in A RUT. USing toothpaste as a body wash will make yourself smell minty. A minty person is a happy person. You figure it out.

GEMINI (May 21-Jun 21): Believe ME, GIN Is not a substitute for good, old-fashioned caring and compassion. Of course, people may argue that it's easier to purchase the latter than the former.

CANCER (Jun 22-Jul 22): You'll discover that you CAN RECycle without looking like a pansy. Seriously, with all the bad you do to the planet on a daily basis, you might as well do a small part in NOT killing it.

LEO (Jul 23-Aug 22): You're destined to become one of the good OLE boys (or girls). You're about as American as apple pie, bananas, and Toshiba.

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sep 22): You may find that you need to prove to someone special how much you care. Be sure to show your strength and VIGOR by bringing him/her a bouquet of thirty solid gold roses (complete with thorns).

LIBRA (Sep 23-Oct 22): You enjoy a fancy diet of tequiLA RIBs and hot chocolate fudge lima beans. Maybe you should rethink your diet. This combination of food is dangerous.

SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 21): Constantly on the run from the COPS, I ORally reprimand you for such behavior. If you just let them catch you, you might get a spot on the show "Cops." Never run from the spotlight!

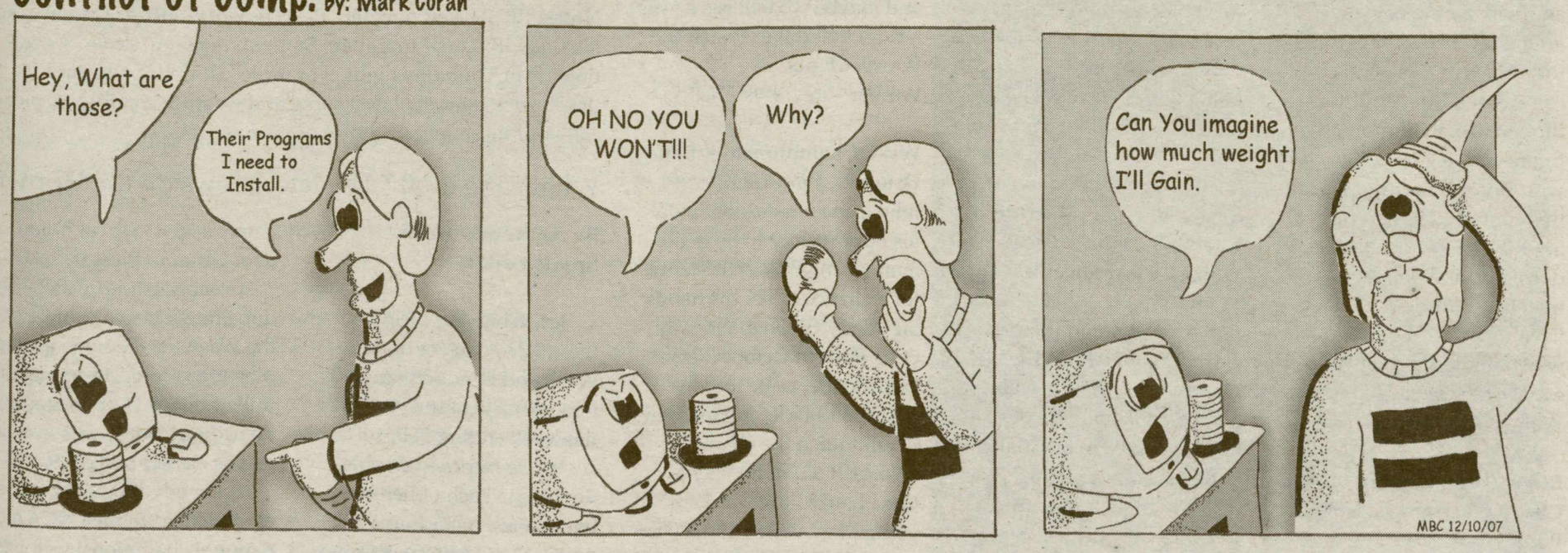
SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22-Dec 21): When filling your buddy's gas tank after a long drive, I recommend that you avoid using SUGAR AS IT TIcks off most people when their car won't start the next day. Instead, use chili powder.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 19): Your wallpaper needs a complete overhaul. Your roommate called me up this morning and said he's sick of seeing the same old RANCOR PICture on your desktop while he Instant Messages your friends with sayings such as "I'll eat your first born."

AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 18): It costs US AIR QUarters, nickels, dimes, pennies, and two-dollar bills in order to stow all your useless luggage in the cargo hold. This leaves them will only one, five, ten and above dollar bills to give as change. You vile person!

PISCES (Feb 19-Mar 20): Next time you embark on a cooking expedition, I think you should study your condiment rack carefully. Use some new SPICES in your next meal.

Conflict of Comp. By: Mark Coran



STUMPED!?

For solutions to this week's puzzles as well as last week's, visit our site on the Web at lyndonstate.edu/critic. Feedback would be very much appreciated. For example, what do you think of our new comic (which I, by the way, don't create)? If you're good, we may run another comic as well.

Puzzles Generated by Overlord of Fun... AND his sidekick, Satan.

Remember to step to the right. That's the good way to go!

Stoddard-Imari agrees to plea deal

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

Hornets basketball star Kali Stoddard-Imari agreed to a plea deal in Caledonia County District Court on Monday after being arraigned on an underage consumption charge.

Stoddard-Imari agreed to the deal with the State Attorney in exchange for what he describes as "a kind of probationary period." This was his second alcohol offense in Vermont.

Early on the morning of Jan. 9, Stoddard-Imari was walking down Broad St. with his fiancée on their way home from a party when he was stopped by a state trooper. Stoddard-Imari admitted to the trooper that he had been drinking. According to Stoddard-Imari, the trooper then became very rude as he questioned him repeatedly before issuing him the underage consumption citation.

When he got home, Stoddard-Imari told his mother about what had happened, and she told him that she believed he was racially profiled. It's unknown at this time if Stoddard-Imari raised this issue in court.

According to the State Attorney's office in St. Johnsbury, the terms of Stoddard-Imari's plea deal include a suspended 10 to 30-day jail sentence, pending completion of administrative probation. Administrative probation is the least-supervised form of probation from the Department of Corrections. This also means that Stoddard-Imari won't have to go back to court again for this case.

In order to fulfill the administrative probation, he will have to attend reparative board sessions (similar to Diversion) and complete them. The timetable for completing those sessions will be determined by the Department of Corrections.

Photo by Barry Sykes
Matt Roche, a freshman at LSC, competes at the Burke Mountain Slopestyle competition on Feb. 10.

The Three Count: WWE No Way Out Predictions

By Timothy Kemp
Special to The Critic

On Sunday, February 17, World Wrestling Entertainment will be presenting its tenth annual No Way Out pay-per-view from the Thomas and Mack Center in Las Vegas, Nevada. Since this is a major stop on the road to WrestleMania 24, I would like to share my predictions on how I would like to see the event turn out.

Career Threatening Match: "Nature Boy" Ric Flair vs. Mr. Kennedy
A couple months ago, Mr. McMahon put an ultimatum on the legendary Ric Flair saying that the next match that he loses will be his last one. Flair has had a career of a little over thirty-five years, and with all the new and younger competitors gunning for him, I can't see him overcoming Mr. Kennedy. Unless Ric can lock in his patented figure-four leg lock, I'm going with Kennedy for the win. If this contest does end up retiring Ric Flair, I hope that WWE does give him one more match at WrestleMania. I believe that would be a great way to build up their biggest event of the year.
Winner – Mr. Kennedy

ECW Championship Match: Chavo Guerrero vs. CM Punk
CM Punk was blatantly robbed out of his title when Edge speared him in his match against Chavo a couple weeks ago. I think it was a fluke that Chavo won the ECW Championship, and CM Punk is ready and hungry to get back on top. I hope Punk's win will lead into a match with a certain ECW Original that I believe deserves one more shot at the championship at WrestleMania.
Winner – CM Punk

Raw Elimination Chamber Match: Winner Faces WWE Champion at WrestleMania Chris Jericho vs. JBL vs. Shawn Michaels vs. Jeff Hardy vs. Triple H vs. Umaga
I have witnessed an elimination chamber match at a pay-per-view a couple years ago in Albany, New York, and I can tell you that this is a large, sadistic looking structure. I personally hope that Jeff Hardy wins this match, because over the last few months, he has really stepped up to main event status. With an exception of a five-year hiatus, he has been working for the WWE since the early 1990s and finally he is ready to be a world champion. I am going with the "rainbow-haired warrior" for the win.
Winner – Jeff Hardy

Smackdown Elimination Chamber: Winner Faces World Champion at WrestleMania
Batista vs. Undertaker vs. The Great Khali vs. Big Daddy V vs. MVP vs. Finlay
Some people may think that having two chamber matches in one night is too much, but if TNA can have an entire pay-per-view of steel cage matches, what is wrong with this? I am going to pick Undertaker for the win, because he was cheated out of his title back in May by Edge. If Edge is also victorious in his match, I hope 'Taker makes him "Rest In Peace." Either way the outcome goes, I'm sure both chamber matches will be brutal, because when human flesh meets steel platforms, chains and glass, it will not be pretty.
Winner - Undertaker

World Heavyweight Championship: Edge vs. Rey Mysterio
There is no question that I am a huge fan of Rey Mysterio. For a guy that is only 5'6 and 175 pounds, he is certainly the "biggest little man" in the WWE. When he won his first world title at WrestleMania 22, I couldn't have been happier. There are some that think he is not a "believable" champion, which I think is crazy. The man was never given an opportunity at main event status by any other company he worked for previously, and I'm glad WWE has allowed him to be a huge star. I am pulling for Rey-Rey, and maybe we will see a Mysterio/Undertaker match at WrestleMania.
Winner – Rey Mysterio

WWE Championship: Randy Orton vs. John Cena
John Cena has cashed in on his opportunity to be in the main event at WrestleMania, for a chance to get his hands on Randy Orton at No Way Out. Back in October, Cena lost his title, as he tore his pectoral muscle, forcing him to relinquish the championship. I am in no way a Cena hater; however I am going to go with a victory for Orton. I think that Randy Orton has really stepped up his game when WWE lost their biggest star in Cena. He deserves a main event spot at WrestleMania, and I hope it will be a rematch against Jeff Hardy. If John Cena does end up winning, it would not bother me one bit.
Winner – Randy Orton

LSC Ski & Board Report

Resort	Recent Snow	Base	Open
	Vermont		
Burke Mtn.	10" in last 24 hours	16-42" PP/PDR	45 trails, four lifts
Jay Peak	4" in last 24 hours, 14" in last 48 hours	24-48" PDR/PP	74 trails, eight lifts
	New Hampshire		
Bretton Woods	2" in last 24 hours, 6" in last 48 hours	45-55" PP/PDR	101 trails, seven lifts
Attitash	8-10" in last 48 hours	20-64" PDR/PP	75 trails, six lifts
	Maine		
Sunday River	10" in last 48 hours	26-48" PP/PDR	122 trails, 11 lifts
Sugarloaf	10" in last 48 hours	20-45" PP/PDR	128 trails, 10 lifts

Notes: PP: Packed powder. PDR: Powder. FRGR: Frozen granular. LSGR: Loose granular. **Source:** snocountry.com. Conditions as of Thursday night. For more information about lift ticket prices and the latest snow and weather conditions, please call your mountain of choice or visit its website.

What's the buzz? The latest news on the Hornets

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

Jen White has been named the USCAA Player of the Week and Lyndon State's Female Athlete of the Week for the week ending Feb. 10.

White recorded double-doubles in each of her last two games, including a 20-point, 13-rebound performance in the Lady Hornet's last game, a 75-63 win at home over UMaine-Presque Isle.

Cesar Martinez was Lyndon State's Men's Athlete of the Week for the same period. Martinez scored 16 points, pulled down 11 boards and dished out five assists in a loss at Hesser on Feb. 9.

The Lady Hornets have earned a bid to the USCAA national championship for the second year in a row.

Upcoming Events

Basketball: 2/16 vs. Green Mountain College, women @ 2 p.m., men @ 4 p.m.; 2/20 vs. New Hampshire Technical Institute, women @ 6 p.m., men @ 8 p.m. (Senior Night)

Note: Home basketball games held at the Stannard Gymnasium. Game times subject to change.

THE CRITIC

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One copy free, extras 50 cents each

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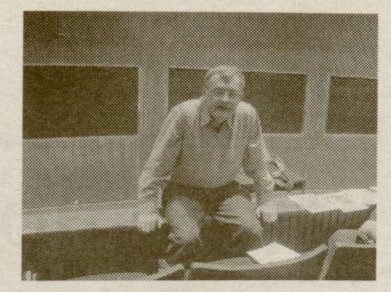

Professor Alexandre Strokanov gives a talk on the recent developments in Kosovo pg. 2

Suspected shoplifter stopped by LSC student

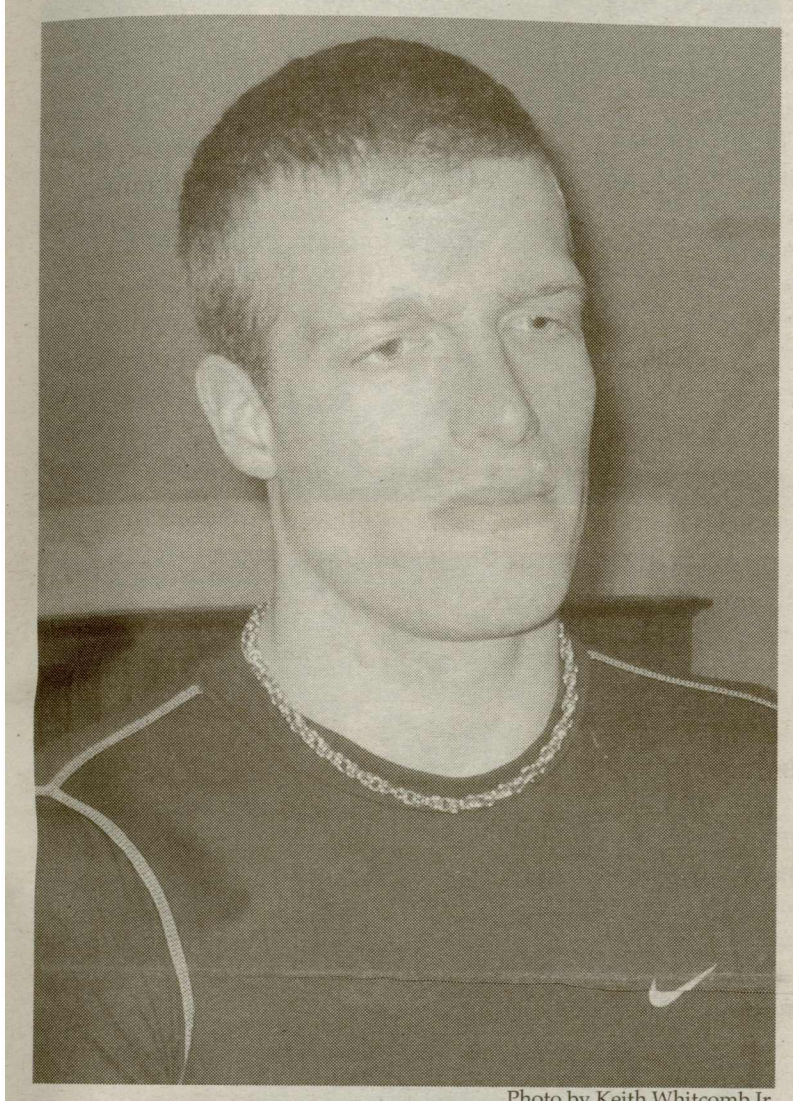

Photo by Keith Whitcomb Jr.

Matt Wells, an Excerise Science major, served overseas as part of the Vermont National Guard. Before coming to LSC, he attended Norwich

By Nathaniel Champagne
Critic Staff

Fighting crime isn't in the Lyndon Promise, but that didn't stop LSC's Matt Wells from detaining a suspected shoplifter at the Price Chopper super market in St. Johnsbury.

On the evening of February 16 Vermont State Trooper Decker responded to an attempted shoplifting call at the supermarket Wells stocks shelves at. Upon arriving, he found that the accused, 21-year-old Adam Garand of St. Johnsbury, had already been fully detained by Wells.

After being suspected of attempting to steal nine beers and a candy bar, Garand was stopped as he tried to leave Price Chopper. Garand then proceeded to pull out a pocket knife, and threatened all of the employees not to follow, as he ran for the exit, Wells said.

Garand ran to a locked door while trying to escape, where he was met by Wells. Wells used a technique he learned in the military, known as "shock factor", where by one would use the force of their body to shove another into something, in this case the locked door, in an attempt to disorient Garand.

After successfully doing this, Garand struck Wells in the face with his fist. Wells then wrestled the closed blade out of Garand's hand and kicked it away. Wells then proceeded to put Garand in a half nelson until he calmed down and then made him stand in the break area to wait for police, Wells said.

Before the police arrived, Garand acted out again. This time threatening to "blast" Wells in the face. After ripping off his sweatshirt Garand pushed Wells three times, forcing Wells to put him in a rear naked choke hold, a move he learned in local Brazilian Jujitsu classes, Wells said.

Wells eventually underhooked Garand's arm, wrapped his other arm around his waist and put him to the ground, until the police arrived Wells said.

Though Wells credits his military training for the mindset that allowed him to act so quickly under such circumstances, it's the Brazilian Jujitsu he attributed the most to.

Wells went back to work after Garand was removed from the premise by police.

"There was so much adrenaline running, when I went to stock shelves my hand was still shaking," Wells said.

Price Chopper management generally discourages employees from physically stopping shoplifters, John Hassard, Co-manager at Price Chopper, said.

"We don't want anybody to get hurt," Hassard said. Physically stopping a suspected shoplifter isn't typical behavior from an employee either. "Night crew people, they're a little more renegade," Hassard said.

Price Chopper would rather that employees should not follow thieves out of the store but just get their licence plate number and report them to the police.

February sees multiple sexually charged events

By Catherine Story
Business Manager

The Lyndon State College Women's Group is curious about vaginas.

"I call it cunt," Vicki Litzinger said during her segment of The Vagina Monologues titled *Reclaiming Cunt*.

After playing with the word Litzinger coerced the audience into yelling cunt with her.

The amusement and the passion were vibrant in the Alexander Twilight Theater.

More giggles were aroused when Kerri Sgarlata explained "The home of the moan."

Playing the woman who loved to make vaginas happy Sgarlata demonstrated many different moaning moments, from the student moan, to the silent moan, to the surprise triple orgasm.

The Vagina monologues also discussed the difficulties of possessing a vagina.

The ode to Bosnian Refugees who were raped as a form of warfare brought silence to the auditorium.

A teary eyed Jennifer Harris presented the suffering of many women through the experiences of one during her segment titled *My Vagina was My Village*.

Sometimes humor can mix with valuable lessons:

Melissa Leonard's portrayal of *The Little Coochi Snorcher That Could* told the story of a girl who had been sexually abused as a girl. Her mother was very secretive about her daughter's vagina and refused to discuss it.

Leonard's character then falls in love with a woman who loves vaginas.

It is during this segment that Leonard's character learns that her vagina may have been brutalized but it is still very beautiful and it is not meant to be a secret.

"I want to taste the fish," Meg Monette said, "that's why I ordered it."

Monette showed the social anger of the vagina in her monologue discussing the desire to change the vagina and to stuff it up with what Monette describes as "a dry wad of fucking cotton."

Another monologue that brought giggles to the crowd was the story of an eighty-year-old woman who had never had an orgasm.

"It took her over an hour because she was arthritic," Donna Keely said.

The Vagina monologues are a collection of stories gathered through interviews with women about their vaginas.

The goal of the production is to end violence against women and raise money and consciousness.

The day before the monologues the event, I Love Female Orgasm, was held in the ATT.

The event was to educate people on how to make themselves or their female partners reach orgasm.

Men and women split off into groups for gender-specific questions.

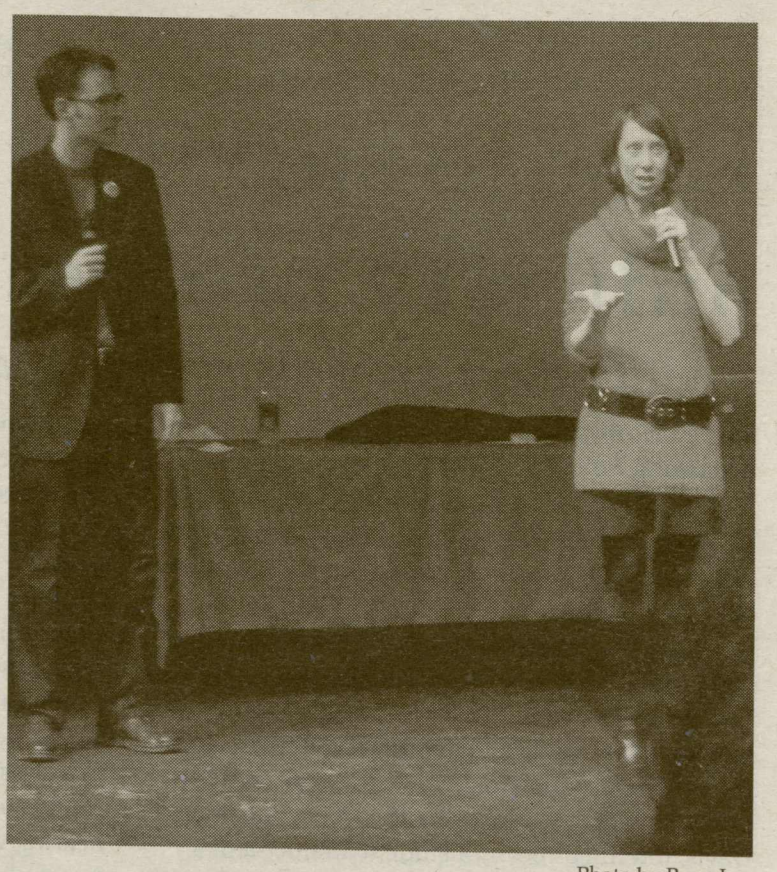

Photo by Ryan Lee

Marshall Miller and Dorian Solot, sex and relationship educators, have given 350 presentations around the country. They give presentation at schools, businesses, churches, and adult education centers.

For LSC, this is their third visit.

Strokanov warns students about independent nation

By Catherine Story
Business Manager

Alexandre Strokanov, professor of History, warns students of the dangers created by Kosovo becoming an independent nation.

"The world became a more dangerous place," Strokanov said about the claim Kosovo made for independence. "It can be mimicked anywhere in the world."

Strokanov put the independence of Kosovo into perspective when he described it as being "worse than the Iraq war."

Kosovo is a country that is well known for its drug-based economy. The new Prime Minister Hashim Thaci is a well-known drug lord and previously a terrorist said Strokanov.

The unemployment rate in Kosovo is around 50 percent and the unemployment rate of young people is around 75 percent. This makes Kosovo a hotbed for possible terrorist activity.

"What else will young people without jobs do?" Strokanov asked the small group that sat in the Alexander Twilight Theater. "It will be an Islamic radical area, a hotbed for terrorism."

Another fear that Strokanov instilled was that the world was beginning to move towards force as a means of accomplishing goals.

"Right is the one with more might," Strokanov said, "despite international law." Strokanov said that Kosovo's independence is a violation of international law.

"The architecture built after World War II is beginning to crumble," Strokanov said.

"Kosovo will be independent in their own mine and the mind of the United States but will not be recognized by the United Nations." Strokanov said it is unlikely that Kosovo will ever be an internationally recognized nation.

"The U.N. is losing moral support," Strokanov said. "This is certainly another injection of power into terrorism.

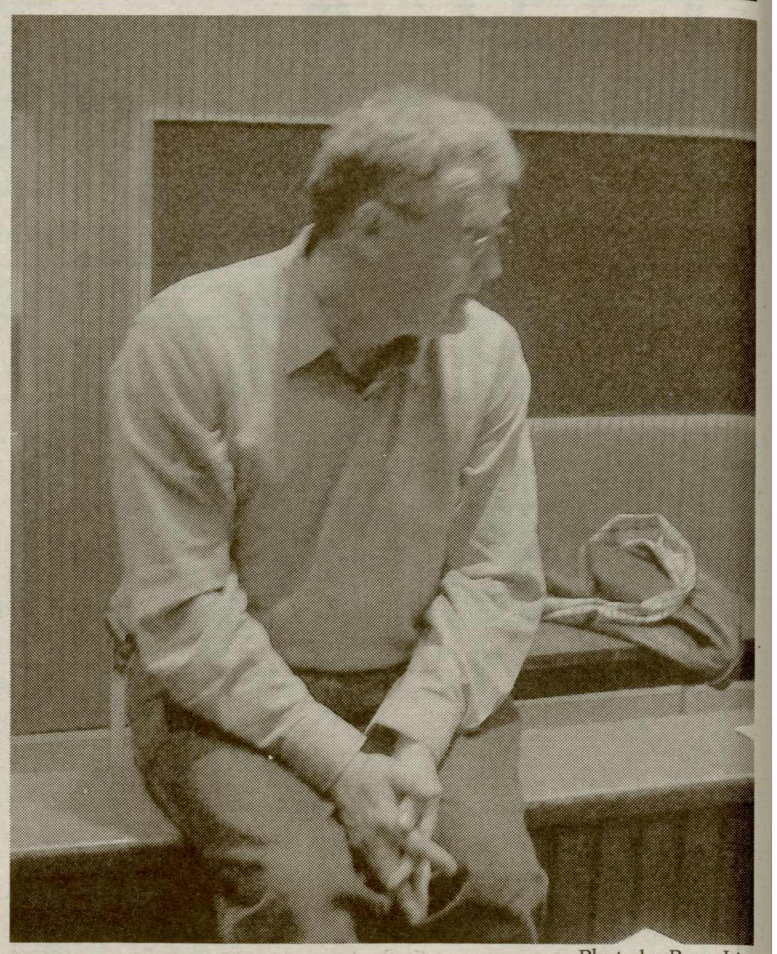

Photo by Ryan Lèe

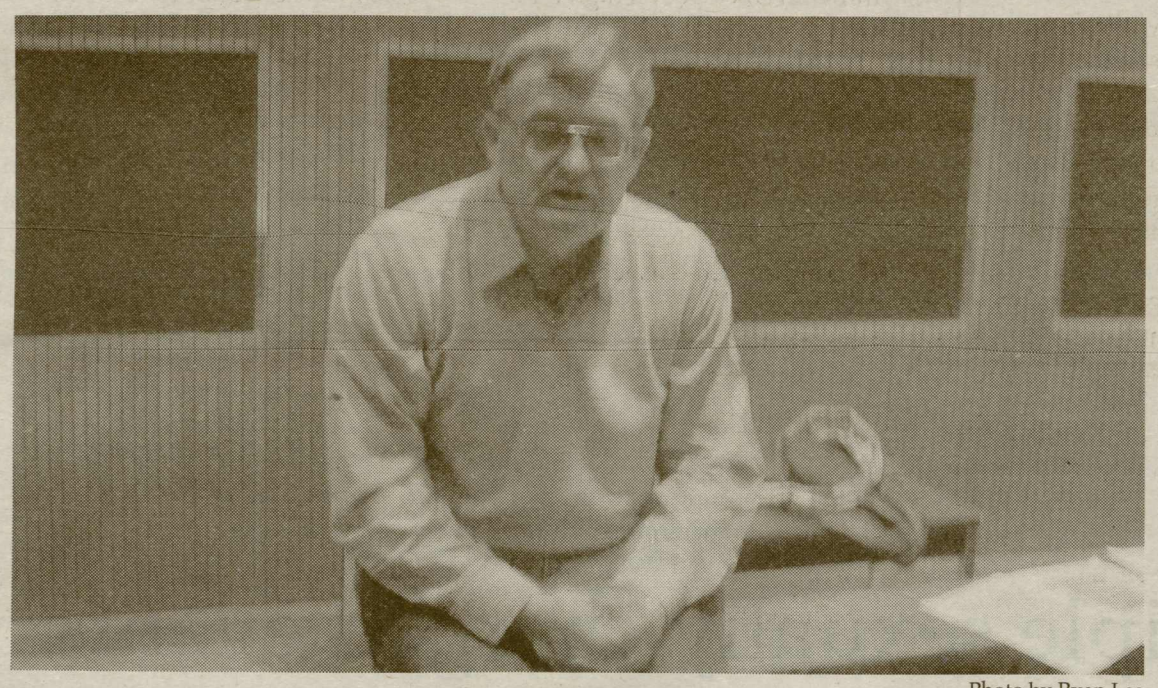

Photo by Ryan Lee

Strokanov continued his lecture on the dangers behind Kosovo gaining its independence due to drug operations being conducted within the country by government officials.

Photo by Ryan Lee

Things began to heat up as Strokanov discussed the problems with recognizing Kosovo as a nation.

How to survive the ins and the outs of the judiciary process at Lyndon State College

A little preparation can make a big difference when facing a potential disciplinary hearing

By Ben Holbrook
Managing Editor

Getting in trouble is never a pleasant experience but with a little preparation, you may be able to defend your innocence.

The judicial process at LSC can range from a one on one hearing for minor violations to a hearing in front of a panel of faculty and staff members. The hearing panel will listen to the student's case and then make recommendations to the dean as to the punishment the student should receive, Jonathan Davis, interim director of student affairs, said.

A student is never guilty until there is a hearing, Davis said. "Many students have the impression they are immediately guilty," Davis said. Students are allowed to bring witnesses, an advocate, or an attorney with prior notice to the school, to the hearings, Davis said.

For minor violations such as drinking, or safety violations, a student will meet with their RHD who would then determine the course of punishment for the student at the time of the hearing.

When a student goes before the hearing panel for more serious violations like damaging school property or drug possession, the hearing panel officer has a checklist of questions to ask the student, Davis said. One of these questions is whether the student would like to challenge for bias, which means one of the hearing panel members may have a bias towards the student because the student was in a class with them, Davis said. Should a student challenge for bias and the bias is proven then the hearing would be suspended until a replacement panel member is found, Davis said.

The challenge for bias rarely happens because, "we try to do our homework beforehand," Davis said.

If a student is trying to prepare for a hearing then the student should read the handbook because, "it's about their rights," Davis said. The student should also be proactive and talk to their RHD or me, Davis said. "Don't assume you're guilty," Davis said.

"We like to think of our judicial system as very educational," Davis said.

Fines for minor drinking violations, and safety violations have been eliminated due to the fact they were somewhat trivial punishments, Davis said. There is still the possibility of having a fine imposed however, for subsequent drinking and/or safety violations depending on prior violations, Davis said. If there was any damage associated with the violations a fine could also be imposed. "In general though, we have tried to stay away from the fines," Davis said.

However, the fines for drug possession, damages, and tampering with fire alarms are still in place, Davis said.

For more information on the judicial process, and to better prepare yourself, consult your student handbook, which has all of the disciplinary process information in it.

Holy Sheet

Coming from rags to riches

By Jordan Royer
Sex Columnist

I took the fall semester off in 2006 and moved to Spokane, Washington to house-sit for my older brother Joseph while he was overseas.

I went to Washington with intentions of eventually transferring, maybe to Gonzaga or another local college in Spokane. My first task was to get settled in and then find a job to hold me over until the spring semester opened.

I applied to a few different places but didn't show a whole lot of interest in getting a job. I much preferred sitting at home watching movies, porn included. I had saved a pretty decent chunk of money before moving so I was living on my slowly dwindling bank account.

I made some pretty unwise decisions with my money (bought a whole wine making kit) and soon enough I discovered I either needed a job or needed to quit going to the comedy club up the street where they served the best beer I have ever tasted, Alaskan Amber.

Well, since comedy and beer are two of my favorite things, quitting that was out of the question. So the job search kicked in to high gear. This is when I came up with a brilliant idea- I was going to be a sperm donor. Genius, I know. I mean, I was feedin' the geese anyway, it might as well be in a cup for cash.

I filled out a 20 page questionnaire about myself, everything from eye color to drug use from number of sexual partners to intelligence. The last task was to give them a sample of the goods, and unlike popular belief, I didn't have to go into a little room with magazines, I got to go home and do it and then bring it back the next day.

I dropped my milk jug off the next morning and then played the waiting game. After about a week I got a call saying my sperm was good, but I wasn't what they were looking for in a donor. Great, the one thing I am good at and I won't be getting paid for it after all.

When I told a friend about trying to donate sperm, he formulated this wild plan that eventually made me more than happy that I was denied. Think about this for a second: My sperm goes to a woman and she has a baby girl. Twenty-one years later "my" daughter is in the same bar I am, but we don't know each other. Me, being a good looking man of 43, picks the young lady up from the bar and brings her home and, shazaam, I just had sex with my daughter. Not cool.

So my initial thought of turning old rags to riches might have seemed like a great idea, but put that idea in your pants and forget it. You might as well just stick to masturbating for free.

Position of the Week- The slinky

Crock full of cook

By Gwen Cook
Cooking Columnist

Crock pots are one of the best ways to make warm dishes without having to spend a lot of time in front of the stove. Just put the ingredients in and leave it alone until it is done! This should especially appeal to students because they can just add the ingredients and leave. A guaranteed fresh hot meal is waiting for them when they come home.

Cheesy chicken
3 whole boneless chicken breasts
2 cans cream chicken soup
1 can chedder cheese soup

Remove all fat and skin from chicken; rinse and pat dry, sprinkle with salt, pepper and garlic powder. Put in crock pot and add the three soups straight from the cans. Cook on low all day (at least 8 hrs) do not lift the lid. Serve over rice or noodles.

Barbeque pork sandwiches
1 pork roast
1 bottle bar-b-cue sauce
About 1/2 to 1 cup water

Just throw in crock pot on high for about 6 hrs. or low for about 10 hrs. When it's done, just remove meat from bone and serve on hamburger buns or rolls with more bar-b-que sauce or ketchup, etc.

Ground beef chili
2 pounds ground beef
2 medium onions, chopped
2 (15 ½ ounce) cans chili beans (do not drain)
1 can diced tomatoes
1 (28 ounce) can crushed tomatoes
2 tablespoons chili powder
1 tsp. garlic powder
1 tsp. onion powder

In a skillet, cook beef and onions over medium heat until no longer pink; drain well and transfer to crock pot. Combine the next 6 ingredients with the meat mixture. Stir well, cover and cook on low for 8 hours or on high for 4 hours. Salt and pepper to taste. Garnish with sour cream and grated cheddar cheese if desired. Serve with corn bread or crackers. Another great idea would be to buy a bread bowl and serve your chili in there!

Change-a-light is a big success once again

By Kurt Heinchon
Critic Columnist

Congratulations to the Commuters in winning the LSC Change-A-Light Challenge. As a whole, the Commuters changed out 90 standard light bulbs for the energy saving compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFL's).

That is equivalent to saving 11,127 pounds of coal and preventing 39,897 pounds of CO2 from getting into our atmosphere. Not to mention, it will also help shave off nearly $700 off of their electric bill over the lives of the bulbs.

For their efforts, they will be having a Vermont native tree planted in their honor in Stonehenge accompanied by a plaque with their name and winning results engraved on it. This will be done as soon as the ground is thawed enough to start digging.

Congratulations also to the Change-A-Light Challenge Residence Hall suite winners, Whitelaw 701. They exchanged an astonishing 27 bulbs which will help save 5,007 pounds of coal and prevent 17,954 pounds of CO2 from getting into our atmosphere. For their efforts, the entire suite will all receive a free game of bowling at the Gold Crown Lanes courtesy of the Advisory Committee on Sustainability.

In total, the Change-A-Light Campaign helped LSC exchange a total of 360 bulbs. That is equivalent to saving 66,760 pounds of coal and preventing a whopping 239,380 pounds of CO2 from getting into our atmosphere. As a side note, LSC will also be saving $6,810 over the lifetime of the bulbs. Not too shabby from doing something as simple as changing a light bulb.

Please be advised that the CFL's do contain a trace amount of mercury. But not to worry there is no where near enough in those bulbs to hurt anyone. However, mercury is a hazardous waste and should be disposed of properly. That is why I am asking for everyone to follow the CFL disposal instructions that will be put into every suite on campus. If you live off campus please visit www.newbulbintown.com/about/mercuryInfo.aspx to view how you can properly dispose of a broken or burned out CFL. Please do NOT throw away your CFL bulb.

I would like to extend my thanks to the Vermont Energy Education Program (VEEP) and Efficiency Vermont for providing the use of their light bike and the education that it brought to the community.

Letter Policy:

The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must include the author's phone number and address. The Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:

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or
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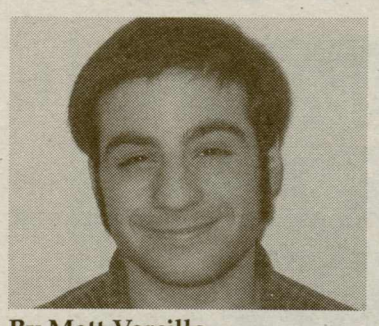
Live music on campus leaves me feeling dead inside



By Matt Vercillo
Critic Staff

Friday, Feb. 16 the Lyndon State student center was host to several live bands.

The event, which was originally advertised as four bands in one night, was free so it became the perfect opportunity for a review. The poster that I saw hanging in the hallway earlier that day had assured me of a few simple facts. First it was four bands, one night. Second, it started at 8:00 p.m. So, as I walked into the building around 7:50p.m., I was quite surprised to hear that the show had already started. I was late, but it was no fault of mine. I guess a fifth band got tacked on at the last minute, making it five bands and beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Well, I grabbed myself a chair and took in what I could of the first band finishing up their set with a cover of Skynard's "simple man" and an interesting version of "Fuel" by Metallica with an Eminem's "lose yourself" tacked onto the beginning.

At this point I was still more or less trying to take in the scene. The place seemed packed. I began thinking about what a great turn out it had been. All of the tables were full and there were about 20 or 30 people standing around in front stage. The second band took about a half an hour to set up which left me to take the atmosphere in a little more.

I was beginning to feel al little uncomfortable. The turnout was good, that is to say there were a bunch of kids there. However, the more I looked around the more I started noticing things. Why were all their pants so tight? Why were these chicks so skinny? What is with that dude in the capri pants over there? Why is everyone giggling and standing in small, cliquish circles? Then, all at once it dawned on me. They actually were kids. High School students. I was really starting to get p****d off.

The next band finally began playing and distracted me from these observations for a bit. The next band took the stage and I was happy that at least they were playing original tunes. They were called Catamaran, and they played songs with a bit of surf-punk indie vibe to them. They played a half hour set, which turned out to be pretty much the format for all the acts.

Then something happened. The crowd started getting really worked up and excited. I noticed more and more empty energy drinks on the tables and more and more chattering shrieks of 15 year-old girls with braces and neon hair. I was beginning to become less than impressed with this whole event. There were maybe a handful of semi-recognizable strangers dotted around that I could picture going to LSC, but the rest were clearly not students here.

Without announcing their name, the third band began whaling away an obnoxious and distorted brand of hardcore metal, with the vocalist simply screaming into the microphone as horridly as he possible could. The less and less impressed I became of the situation, the more and more the crown seemed to dig what was going on. I was beginning to think this would be a waste of a Friday night.

The fourth came on and I immediately recognized them as the idiots who had propped the door next to my table open for twenty minutes while they carried their equipment in. It was freezing outside, so these guys started off on the wrong foot with me. They announced themselves as Astrada, from Manchester, N.H. Although the crowd seemed pretty much super pumped on these guys, I was failing to see the difference from the last band. It sounded exactly the same.

That pretty much seemed to be the theme from that point on as the next band, Our Drowning City, also sucked. They sounded exactly like Astrada, somebody growling into the mic with heavily distorted guitars. Three awful bands in a row was too much for me to handle and I left before the end of Our Drowning City's set. I walked out wondering at what point music simply becomes noise.

Finding cheap and worthwhile vacations is an adventure in and of itself for students

By Laura Blackburn
Volante
(U. South Dakota)

VERMILLION, S.D. (U-WIRE) - University of South Dakota senior Anna Brown will spend spring break in one of the biggest and most diverse cities in the nation -- New York City. Not only that, but Brown has accomplished what can sometimes be a challenging task: traveling on spring break at the perfect price.

Like Brown, many students want to travel during spring break, but can't afford to go on an extravagant vacation. Instead, more students are taking roadtrips and saving money by staying with family and friends or finding cheap airline tickets to cities within the United States.

Brown is visiting a friend who is in the Air Force in Bethesda, Md. The two will meet up and take a road trip on the east coast.

Brown and her sister will fly into Baltimore to start off the trip. From there, they will meet up with her friend and make a day trip to Washington, D.C. Also on the agenda is a couple of days in New York City, a place that Brown has been in love with since her last visit.

While she will be doing a lot in the city, (a play on Broadway, shopping, hitting up Times Square), she won't be spending a huge amount of cash.

Brown is planning to save money by staying with friends for free.

"I'm not spending any money on where I'm staying," she said.

This, combined with a cheap ticket to Baltimore via priceline.com, has allowed Brown to escape to the big city without doing any serious damage to her budget.

Although she just recently booked her flight in the first part of January, Brown was able to get her ticket for $230, which she secured with traveler's insurance for $10 in case the weather causes cancellations.

"I'm really excited to get out of South Dakota," Brown said. "I'm excited to be in New York City and be somewhere bigger."

Another popular destination for students who don't want to spend a lot of money for spring break is Canada.

Driving to Canada is do-able, and with enough friends to split the costs with, they can enjoy the large congregation of college students in the Canadian club scene during spring break, even if they are not 21.

Senior Autumn Hausman made the trip to Canada her freshman year, traveling with two car loads of girls. They saved money by packing coolers full of food so they wouldn't spend money on the road. Once they arrived in Winnipeg, they took advantage of their newfound freedom to buy beer as they pleased.

Hausman and her friends enjoyed being *able* to start the night drinking in their hotel before going out.

"Almost everyone in the hotel was on spring break," Hausman said.

By drinking before hitting up the clubs, the girls saved money for cab rides and cover charges.

"It was really fun and definitely something to do if you get the chance - especially if you go before you're 21," Hausman said.

Other students are keeping their road trip in the state. Junior Tiffany Hrdlicka and a group of her friends are working on a trip to Deadwood. Their plans include visiting the Badlands, taking old-time photos and visiting Custer State Park.

Hrdlicka plans on staying with relatives in Rapid City.

When asked what else she would be doing while in Deadwood, Hrdlicka laughed and said, "Gambling, of course. We're 21."

To make a road trip the best experience possible, AAA.com recommends planning everything from the driving route and gas stops to estimated travel time, to relieve stress and keep all travelers involved happy.

Some students are "dying" to show off a perfect tan over their spring break this year

By Courtney Lacy
Kentucky Kernel
(U. Kentucky)

LEXINGTON, Ky. (U-WIRE) - Tanning beds near campus have seen business spike in the weeks leading up to Spring Break, but while students may be doing tanning salons a favor, tanning does no favor for the skin, said Susan Griffith, a doctor at the UK HealthCare Clinic.

Many people try and build a base tan at a tanning bed to avoid burning in the actual sun, but this practice is dangerous, Griffith said.

"There is no safe way to tan," she said. "Every study shows a direct link between tanning beds and skin cancer."

Even with the results of these studies, Griffith said she does not believe that the number of people tanning has declined.

"People worry about the effects of X-rays on their bodies, but not about the effects of harmful rays on their skin," she said. "Some people just don't realize that a tan is really sun damage."

Heather Roby, a middle school education sophomore, said she feels like she looks better when she has a tan, and tanning could help her avoid getting burned over the break.

"If I am going to be out in the sun a lot during the break, I feel like my visits to the tanning bed will keep me from getting burned since I will already have a base tan," Roby said.

A 15 to 30 minute visit to the tanning bed is equal to an entire day at the beach, and the dark skin a tanner develops from the radiation is the skin's biological response to injury, according to the University Health Service Web site.

Finance freshman Lacey Storie said she has been tanning for 15 minutes four times a week to get her skin ready for Spring Break, and said she is not really worried about the potential health risks.

Roby said she is concerned about her tanning habits leading to skin cancer, and while she continues to tan, she limits her visits.

"I normally do not tan more than once a week, and I only tan prior to certain occasions," Roby said.

Sarah White and Stacy Kaenzig, employees at Tan 101, located in the Coliseum Plaza at the corner of Rose Street and Avenue of Champions, said the establishment's business always doubles during the weeks prior to Spring Break.

Critters on Lyndon campus: cool or crappy?

By Jennifer Ingram
Critic Staff

In the past, Lyndon had an open policy that allowed faculty, staff, and students to bring their pets to campus. Recently Lyndon has changed their policy and now no longer allows pets on campus which has brought up much discussion and debate. In a recent survey that was done at Lyndon there were many reported advantages and disadvantages to bringing pets on campus.

Advantages

Helping Dogs

In the past there was a professor that had a severe case of diabetes so therefore she brought her dog with her. The dog's responsibility was to look out for her in the case she ever went into diabetic shock, her dog would be able to get assistance for her.

Helps students feel more at home and secure

Bob McCabe, director of student support services, used to bring his dog to campus. "When I used to bring my dog the students used to come out of their dorms and play fetch. The students loved to play with him because it reminded them of being home at home with their animals," McCabe said.

Dogs have a calming effect on many people

"I've seen the positive effects that the presence of an animal can have on students [and staff] who are stressed out, frazzled, and/or upset," Deb Bailin, director of student academic development, said.

Accommodated schedules

There are many faculty/ staff and students who have a very busy day, and by being able to bring their pets to campus relieves stress knowing that their pet is properly being cared for. "Most of the time I brought my dog because I needed to be here for a longer-than-usual day, and I couldn't leave my dog alone for such a long time. I live too far away to zip home at lunch time and take her for a walk, so she regularly spends at least 10 hours alone every day," Bailin said.

Disadvantages

There are many students that have allergies to pets

When bringing pets onto campus you do not know who you will come in contact with, and the people that you come in contact with may have allergies to pets, and for some it may be life threatening.

Pet owners not taking responsibility for their pet's waste

"The biggest reason that pets stopped being allowed on campus was due to the waste that they created around campus," McCabe said.

Dogs provide distractions to their owners and others around them

"I am a dog owner/ lover myself however, I would not bring my dogs to campus because of the fact that I could not properly care for them with the responsibilities that I have on campus," Diane Tanguay, an LSC senior majoring in elementary/special education and human services, said.

While in class dogs stay in cars

Bringing pets to campus often means that while in class the pet(s) have to stay in your vehicle.

There are severe risks to keeping pets in vehicles such as in the winter time, the low temperatures can cause hypothermia and in the summer when the pets are in the car they can get over heated and many times get dehydrated.

Going home to vote cutting college student voter turnout

By James Crepea
The Lantern
(Ohio State U.)

COLUMBUS, Ohio (U-WIRE)- As he sat in his economics class Tuesday morning, senior David Motta was concerned about supply and demand, not voting in Tuesday's primary.

"I haven't looked at who I want to vote for yet," Motta said.

Motta, similar to many Ohio State students, is registered to vote in his hometown and would have had to vote by absentee ballot for the primary.

"I didn't want to do absentee for the primary," Motta said. "I would for the presidential election."

Motta is not alone. Sophomore Jennifer Pfaff of Toledo also did not vote Tuesday.

"I would have voted for (Sen. Barack) Obama," Pfaff said. "By the time I remembered to get an absentee ballot, it was too late."

Obama and Sen. Hillary Clinton each held events at OSU recently, and support for the candidates among students is unquestionable. What both Democratic presidential hopefuls have to remain optimistic about is that students around the country, particularly in highly contested states, such as Ohio and Texas, remember to vote absentee in order to show their support.

A third student who did not vote Tuesday was Doug Deskins, a senior from Wauseon.

"I would have voted for (Sen. John) McCain, but the Republican nomination is already decided," Deskins said.

Unlike the competitive race in the Democratic party, the Republican nominee was all but official heading into Tuesday.

McCain had 1,047 delegates heading into Tuesday's primaries, according to CNN.com. His competitors, Mike Huckabee and Congressman Ron Paul trail by insurmountable margins, with 247 delegates and 21 delegates respectively.

Deskins said he will vote in the general election and barring unforeseen circumstances McCain will be his choice.

Making sure LSC students get the vote out

Students at Lyndon State College had the opportunity to register to vote using their college address as their residency.

Kate Murphy, the Residence Hall Director of the Rita Bole Complex , put together the chance for students to register here at LSC so they could be eligible to vote in the primaries, state, and presidential elections, even while at school. The students used their college address which made them Vermont residents.

The reasoning behind the registration plan was, "It makes it easier to vote on campus," Murphy said.

If a student registered to vote in Vermont, and they also are registered in their hometowns, they are still able to switch back to their old residency, Murphy said.

There are still opportunities to register to vote even if you missed the chance on Tuesday, simply go to the student life office and talk to Elaine Turner.

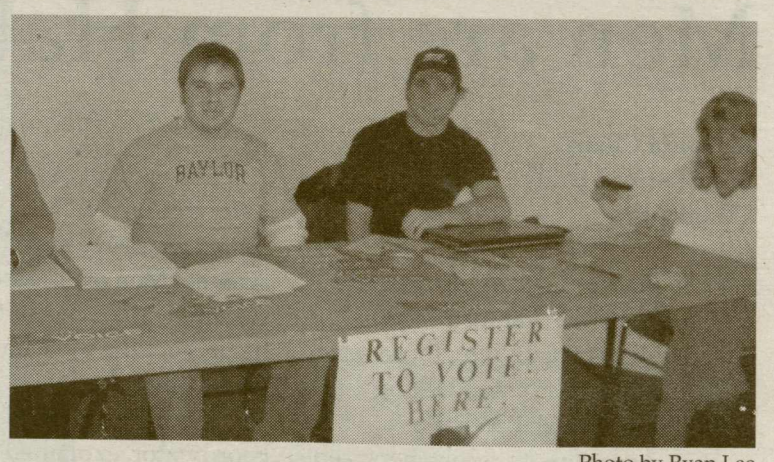


Photo by Ryan Lee

Right to left: Elaine Turner, Jon Maciel and others making it easier to get the vote out.

U. Iowa decides to abstain from funding abstinence-only education

By Janessa Ensinger
The Daily Iowan
(U. Iowa)

IOWA CITY, Iowa (U-WIRE) - Gov. Chet Culver will reject federal funding for abstinence-only education.

The move comes almost a year after the Iowa Legislature signed a bill into law that only allowed medically and scientifically proven sex education in schools.

Iowa will be the 17th state to reject the thousands of dollars the federal government gives to states that follow the Title V — or abstinence-only — policy.

Brad Anderson, the governor's office communications director, said Culver supports education that is effective and prevents unintended pregnancies.

"He doesn't believe Iowa or any other state's hands should be tied by mandates from Washington," Anderson said.

Title V began in 1996, when it was worked into a welfare law. Initially, it was designed to last five years, and it was supposed to teach students that not having sex was the only way to surely avoid an unwanted pregnancy. In 2002, the program was extended, and the federal government added another $20 million to the program.

In 2007, Culver signed an Iowa law that states only scientifically proven information can be used when teaching sex education. This set the stage for the state to reject the Title V funds.

The state Department of Education is looking for sex education that is medically accurate, said Judith Jensen, the health coordinator for the Iowa City School District.

"We will choose a curriculum that meets those standards," she said. "I imagine we won't change anything until 2009."

Students in the Iowa City district are taught not only about abstinence but about safe sex and healthy relationships, she said.

Comprehensive sex education involves teaching students about condoms, birth control, and other alternatives to abstinence. Some in the state Legislature do not think this is the best method to educate teens about sex issues.

Sen. Mark Zieman, R-Postville, a member of the education appropriations subcommittee, said he didn't think the state was in a position to reject federal funding.

When asked whether he agreed with the governor's decision, he said, "That's his business."

Abstinence-only education should be an option in the classroom, he said. Zieman did acknowledge that there is a problem with unintended pregnancies in the state, but he attributed the problem to parents and not to what is being taught in the classroom.

"I would suggest parents ought to start being parents," he said.

Coaches allow athletes to buy essays online

By Franklin Kanin
Brown Daily Herald
(Brown University)

PROVIDENCE, RI (U-Wire). - Athletes make up almost half of students who purchase essays online from EssayBay.com and most do so with the approval of their coaches, according to a study conducted by the custom essay site.

EssayBay writers prepare academic essays, job applications and resumes for their customers. In its "About Us" section, the Web site says it "connects writers with buyers that need custom essays, term papers, theses and dissertations and allows writers to offer their services directly based on the strength of their reputation and past results."

A Feb. 14 article in the Miami Hurricane reported that a "customer profiling exercise" conducted by the British service revealed that more than 45 percent of EssayBay customers are athletes using the site to ensure their grades are high enough to qualify for sports scholarships and that 70 percent of those students have approval from their coaches. The study also found that over 90 percent of athlete customers are hoping for admission into a top university.

Jed Hallam, a representative for EssayBay, said the site offers more than most in the essay industry.

"Some places do free essays, but they're not customized to the student's requirements," he said. "The market needs to advance far enough to where EssayBay is - where you can list a word count, an academic level. You can have someone from Oxford write your essay."

Hallam described the process of buying and posting as a "reverse auction." Buyers are able to link the topic of the paper and all the qualifications they want for it - length, grade they want to achieve, types of references they want and sources the writer should use - and then writers bid on the paper in terms of how well they think they can meet customers' needs.

The practice of students buying essays on the Internet can raise questions about academic honesty, especially with the recent controversy over coaches urging their athletes to use it, Hallam said. But he said he was not surprised that coaches told their athletes to use EssayBay.

"In the U.K., we've seen parents and grandparents buying essays for a couple of years now to make sure their students are achieving what they set out to do," he said. "For coaches to use the essays to ensure their athletes are getting scholarships and into the Ivies are no surprise, but apparently it's become a surprise for America and the American education system."

Several Brown athletes said they understood what could lead students to buy an essay online. But they added that the practice is unethical and counterproductive.

Kent Holland '10, who is on the men's water polo team and also played the sport in high school, said he can understand the pressure that would lead students to buy papers from Web sites, though he said he had not heard of EssayBay specifically.

"Definitely in high school there's a lot of pressure," he said. "You're kind of on a tight schedule - homework, classes, practice, then you come home and you have two hours to do work before you have to get to bed in order to get enough sleep for practice."

But Holland said using this site just hurts students in the long run. Students should not go to a school they would not be able to get into on their own, he said, because they will just struggle academically once they get there.

"If you're at a school, like an Ivy, and you got there because of someone writing a paper for you, then you'll struggle and you won't get anything out of it," he said.

Jose Yearwood '08, who plays football for Brown, said balancing athletics and academics, though challenging, has given him a better perspective on life.

"I do agree that there's pressure to balance the two, but that in itself is the challenge of being (a student athlete) - it's a good kind of pressure," Yearwood said. "Being a student athlete has made me a better person."

Yearwood said there is nothing wrong with using essays from EssayBay as a reference to see what a good essay on that topic could look like. But if students turn in purchased essays and call them their own work, he said, they would be cheating.

"That just seems very disingenuous," he said. "It's basically just having someone do your work for you. That's like if I went to my buddy and said, 'Hey man, do this test for me' or 'Hey, do my econ homework.'"

Despite Yearwood's concerns, Hallam said plagiarism is not an issue for EssayBay because the Web site only serves as a conduit between the writers and buyers.

EssayBay even has a "Plagiarism Scanner" on its Web site where customers can ensure the essay they bought was not plagiarized. The Plagiarism Scanner section of the Web site asks, "Are you worried you may have accidentally plagiarized your essay or dissertation? Perhaps you've bought an essay from a custom essay company and want to check its originality? Do you really know that you're absolutely safe from infringing ever tightening rules on plagiarism?"

"As far as we're concerned, and from a legal point of view, it is up to that writer to decide what they will do," Hallam said. "In terms of ethical code," he added, "that is literally up to the writer and buyer."

Men are from Halo, women are from Tetris

By Laura Chang
The Stanford Daily
(Stanford)

Stanford, CA (U-wire) - A recent study by the Stanford Medical School might explain why those boys down the hall won't stop talking about Super Smash Brothers.

According to researchers, gender differences in neural processes and motivational states may clarify why males are "more attracted to, and more likely to become 'hooked' on video games than females."

Fumiko Hoeft, a researcher in the study, has attributed males' fascination with video games to their innate territoriality: a trait he believes is more pronounced in men than in women.

"You can, I am sure, easily imagine people fighting over prime office space, bunk beds in dorms and camps, etc.

Territorial behavior is maybe 'the' fundamental behavior in animals/humans, and we all try to maximize Darwinian fitness," Hoeft wrote in an email to The Daily.

But do Stanford gamers align with this theory?

At first glance, it might seem so. In a recent Arroyo Super Smash Brothers Tournament, 17 residents signed up, of which only one participant was female.

The turnout made perfect sense to Tyler Ketron '10. "Men are inherently more aggressive and competitive than women. Men are pressured more to be the alpha male...It's leftover from mating, where the male has to fight for the best woman."

Jane Huang '09, the tournament's coordinator, explained it as a difference of preference.

"They like different types of games," said Huang. "Guys like first person games, like shooter. Girls like puzzles, like Tetris. There's actually a lot of market research showing that a lot of women like to play flash games or puzzle games - the kind of games you might see on Shockwave.com."

Ricky Villarreal '09 agreed. "I know more men that like video games, but I know several girls who have video game consoles, and enjoy the sport of competition.

Women find it easier to play something more interactive or intuitive, like the Wii, Guitar Hero or DDR," he said.Some girls don't like video games at all.

"I hate them - they make me dizzy," said Amara Humphry '09. "I don't know if most girls get dizzy when they play video games, but I know girls don't play them as much as boys do."

Inevitably, the argument invites an age-old question: Is this difference due to nature or nurture?

Hoeft and his fellow researchers presumed it to be nature, and their experiment was designed accordingly.

To monitor the neural activity associated with territoriality, the team created a simple computer game:

Eleven men and 11 women were connected to a functional magnetic resonance imaging (FMRI) machine and instructed only to "click on as many balls as possible."

If the player clicked a ball before it reached a certain point, a wall in the game shifted to the right, granting the player more "territory." If they clicked too late, the participants lost territory.

While both men and women were able to decipher the game's mechanism, men ultimately accumulated a greater amount of territory than women.

Overall, the men appeared more motivated, as "the goal to 'gain more space' acted as a reward for males relative to females.

""We were nicely surprised," Hoeft said. "[It was] just what we wanted to see."

Students, on the other hand, are reluctant to attribute interest in video games to the idea of territory.

Instead, they cited societal influences.

"To be honest," said Ruven Chu '09, "I think it's a cultural thing. A lot of girls, when they try video games, they actually really like it. They've just never really tried it."

Villarreal admitted to liking video games "for their competitive nature," but further explained, "I think it's something in my personality - it's not about being a boy. I think inherently, people just like to win"

"Since brainwashing starts from an early age, it might as well be hardwired," suggested Huang. "Even if you give boys dolls, they'll make guns with their fingers."

For Chu, the joy of gaming lies in "the simulated experience that wouldn't be provided in the real world.

Playing soccer is fun, but when I play a soccer video game, I can do things I wouldn't be able to do in the real world.

At least for me, it's fun to win in a video game. But I don't necessarily think I would play only if I won all the time."

Above all, both men and women seem to value games with intelligent, engrossing story lines. Regardless of how gender differences stratify the gaming community, one can be sure that a common ground exists.

"Sudoku gone? Yes, that's right folks. The last site I'd found in which you could distribute created puzzles without written permission is gone. Help us!"

Hidden Critic Staff?

M	D	B	A	P	S	X	Q	B	M	O	C	T	I	H	W	H	T	I	E	K	H	N	M	W
O	L	R	I	Y	A	T	A	O	Q	I	Z	G	L	E	I	M	A	B	T	Y	E	E	X	H
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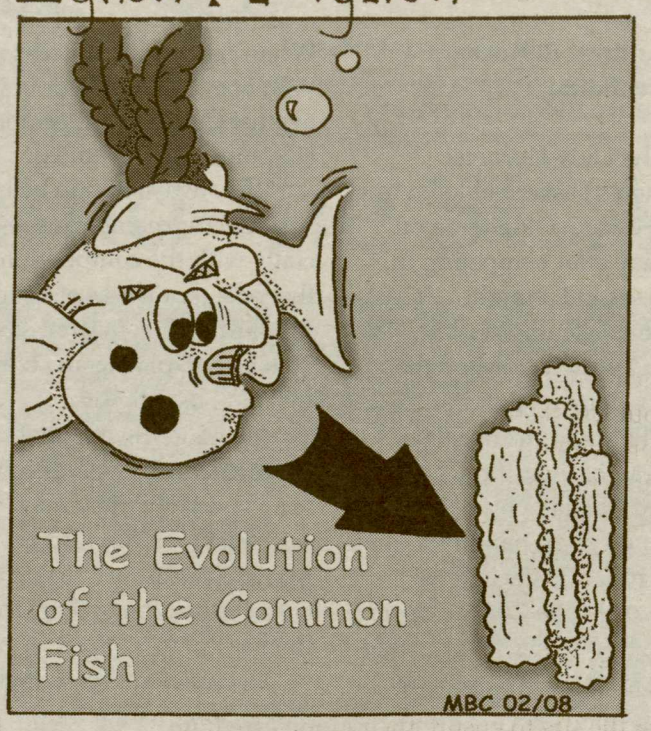
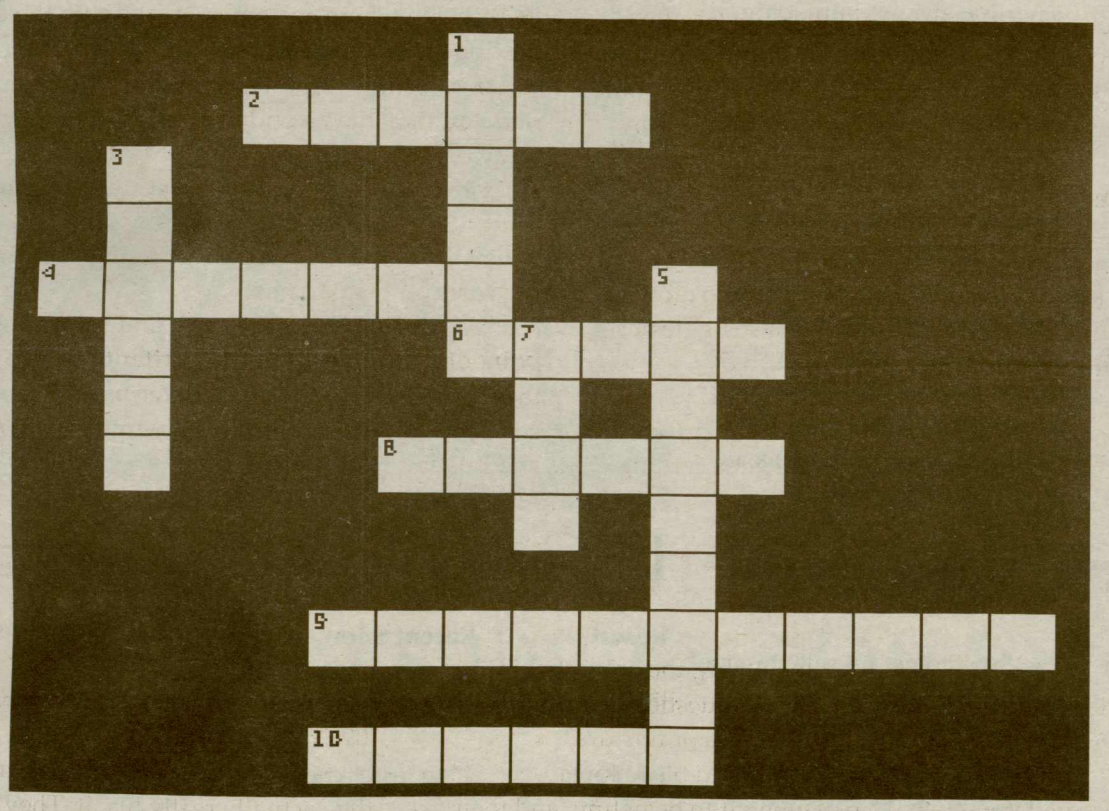
B	K	X	X	W	R	B	E	N	H	O	L	B	R	O	O	K	V	C	D	L	G	V	R	V

Keith Whitcomb, Heather Perkins, Ben Holbrook, Ryan Lee, Matt Vercillo, Jennifer Ingram, Eric Downing, Nathaniel Champagne, Joshua Gervais, Gwen Cook,

Lynch & Flynch



Crossword to defend yourself against fresh fruit!



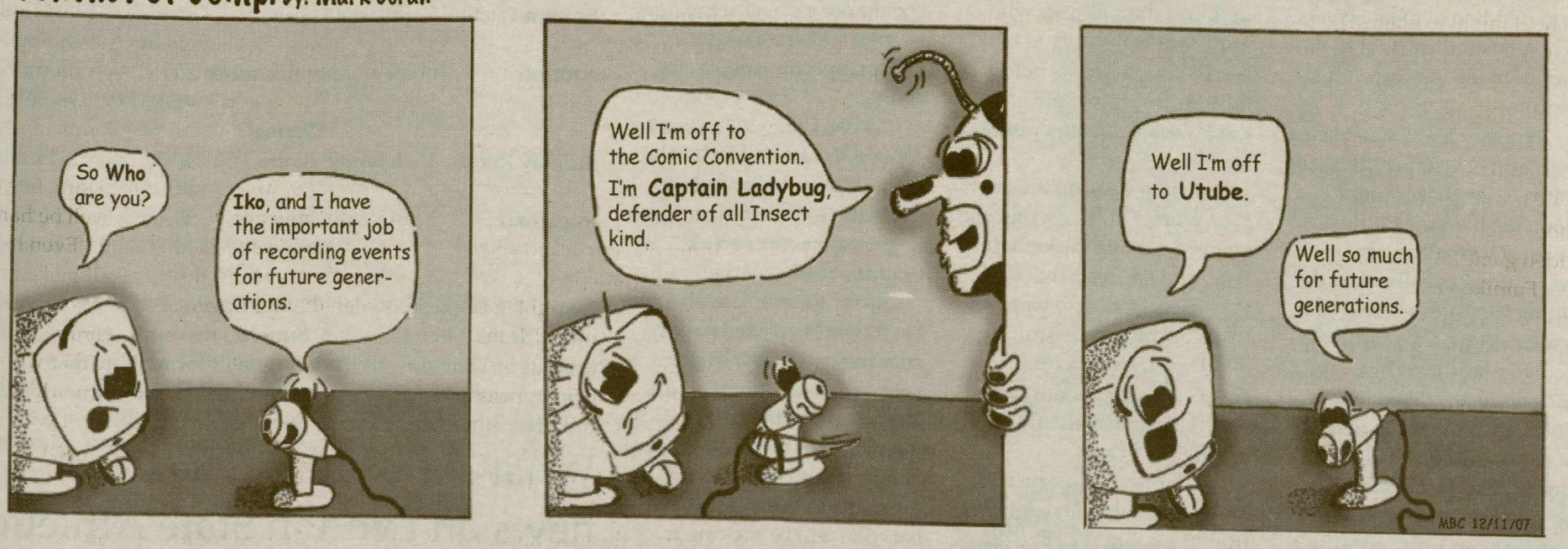
ACROSS

2. This fruit is sick of you putting an "e" at the end of its name.
4. The great Halloween squash.
6. When you hold your tongue and say this word, it sounds like an insult.
8. Very wrathful fruit.
9. Name is latin for "seeded apple."
10. The Log on which you place ants.

DOWN

1. Phones, tally man, etc.
3. To trample, crush, or otherwise flatten.
5. That girl in the Willy Wonka movie turned into a giant _____.
7. Think in twos.

Conflict of Comp. By: Mark Coran



STUMPED!?

For solutions to this week's puzzles as well as last week's, visit our site on the Web at lyndonstate.edu/critic. Seriously, we need feedback. You'll probably now all complain, as your precious Sudoku is gone. Not my fault! I don't want to get sued. If you're good, we may run another comic as well.

Puzzles Generated by Overlord of Fun... Also known as ZIPPERCOAT.

They told me to zip the lip, so...

Lady Hornets go to second straight national championship tournament

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

The Lady Hornets women's basketball team returned from Oklahoma on Sunday after competing in their second straight USCAA National Championship. The Lady Hornets finished their season with a record of 16-12.

The Lady Hornets won two out of their three games in the tournament, despite getting beaten handily in their first-round game against Robert Morris College-Springfield, 80-56. The team would go on to win their next two games in the loser's bracket, including a 69-57 win over Southern Maine Community College, against whom the Lady Hornets split their two regular season games. In their last game of the tournament, the Hornets managed to hang on for a 79-75 win over the University of Cincinnati-Clermont despite nearly blowing a 27-point lead in the second half.

Leading the way for the Hornets were Jackie Wetzel, who averaged 12 points a game during the tournament, along with Jen White and Whitney Hoyt, who each averaged 11.7 points per game. White capped off her season with one last double-double against Cincinnati-Clermont (13 points, 12 rebounds).

"It's always nice to be in a national tournament, especially with the competition at the level that it was at," junior forward Sara Fetterhoff said. "It's nice to play teams that we don't usually see."

"Being in the national tournament showed us other teams and how they play," said freshman forward Marissa Baggarly. "There are better teams down there in the South."

The women's basketball team, along with Lyndon State's other varsity teams, have been using the last two years to get ready for their move up to the NCAA, as well as into the North Atlantic Conference. Those moves will be officially completed starting next semester with fall sports.

"We've had two free years to prepare for the NAC," Fetterhoff said. "Our coach and the athletic department have prepared us with tougher schedules." Fetterhoff added that over the last couple of years, they've seen a diverse number of teams, and the different styles those teams play with.

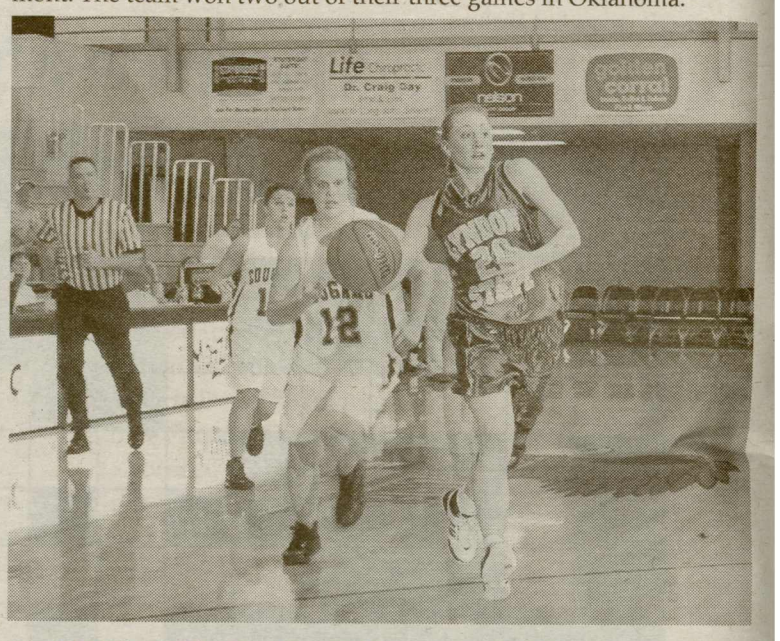
The USCAA Men's Division I and Women's National Basketball Championships are held every year at Rhema Bible College in Broken Arrow, Okla., near Tulsa. When the women weren't playing games there, they would make trips over to Tulsa, where they visited the zoo, mall and Hooters. The team also enjoyed meals at Fudrucker's, which is a southern burger joint chain. According to Fetterhoff and Baggarly, the food in these restaurants is "some good stuff."

Baggarly and Wetzel both wrote about their experiences in Oklahoma in their blogs, which are featured on the school's Web site. Baggarly says that she got into doing her blog when she asked Head Coach Vinnie Maloney for a job, and he proceeded to introduce her to Tak Shimamura, the Web master here at LSC. Shimamura proceeded to get her into blogging.

The Lady Hornets will look to use their success over the last two years as a springboard to what they hope will be continued success in the North Atlantic Conference in the 2008-2009 season.

Photos courtesy of Bill Johnson

Above: Senior captain Whitney Hoyt lines up an attempt in the free throw shooting contest at the USCAA Skills Competition. Hoyt won the contest. Below: Junior Kelly Warren drives to the basket during the Lady Hornet's final game of the tournament against Cincinnati-Clermont. The team won two out of their three games in Oklahoma.



Seniors say farewell to LSC basketball

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

Feb. 20 was Senior Night for the Lyndon State basketball teams. The Lady Hornets honored two of their players, who played their final home games in the Stannard Gymnasium.

Whitney Hoyt and Ashlea Bourdon have taken different paths to get to this point. Bourdon has played three years of softball and two years of volleyball before deciding to play basketball this winter. Hoyt has played basketball here for all four seasons and has played in postseason tournaments each of the last three seasons, including this year. She is the only female athlete in school history to go to three national tournaments in her career.

"I loved it. I wouldn't trade it for anything," Hoyt said about her four years here. "Basketball is what got me through college."

Midway through her career, she experienced the most recent coaching change in the women's basketball program, when current head coach Vinnie Maloney took over after the unexpected retirement of Dave Mellor just before the start of last season.

"It was hard adjusting at first. We didn't know who our coach was going to be until a couple weeks before the season," Hoyt said. "I think we all adjusted pretty well."

Looking back on the last four years, Hoyt says that she enjoyed playing basketball here, and she feels that the time she put in here was well invested and successful.

"I work hard in my classes, I work hard at basketball. I became really focused," Hoyt said.

As for Bourdon, she was never really that far away from the sport. Prior to this season she had been officiating basketball games in the area, as well as coaching seventh grade girls' basketball at the Lyndon Town School. She hadn't played basketball since high school, and coaching and officiating made her miss the sport.

"I decided to play to pass the time, to get myself closer to graduation," Bourdon said at practice.

Bourdon said that she enjoyed the success that the team had this season, getting the chance to meet some new people, and she also got a new perspective on playing sports.

"When I play volleyball or softball, I start and I play the whole game. In basketball, I just come in for a few minutes to give someone a break," Bourdon said.

As for their future plans, Hoyt, who's an exercise science major, would like to keep her love for basketball alive by someday working with athletes or youth groups, possibly as a coach. Bourdon got married this past November. She will be moving to Germany with her husband, who is in the Army, for the next three years, and hopes to get a job on the military base. Her husband will be going to Iraq next January. Bourdon says she might move back to either Vermont or Maine while her husband is on deployment in Iraq.

LSC Ski & Board Report

Resort	Recent Snow	Base	Open
	Vermont		
Burke Mtn.	1" in last 48 hours	18-48" LSGR	45 trails, four lifts
Jay Peak	4" in last 48 hours	24-48" LSGR	72 trails, eight lifts
	New Hampshire		
Bretton Woods	2" in last 48 hours	55-65" LSGR	101 trails, seven lifts
Attitash	no new snow this week	20-64" PDR/PP	75 trails, six lifts
	Maine		
Sunday River	1" in last 48 hours	40-62" PP	131 trails, 11 lifts
Sugarloaf	3" in last 48 hours	30-60" PP/LSGR	131 trails, 10 lifts

Notes: PP: Packed powder. PDR: Powder. FRGR: Frozen granular. LSGR: Loose granular. **Source:** snocountry.com. Conditions as of Thursday night. For more information about lift ticket prices and the latest snow and weather conditions, please call your mountain of choice or visit its website.

What's the buzz? The latest news on Lyndon State Athletics

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

Several Hornets basketball players took home awards at the USCAA'S annual banquet in Broken Arrow, Okla., site of the Men's D-I and Women's National Champioionships.

Juniors Jen White and Kali Stoddard-Imari were named USCAA All-Americans. White, was also named a USCAA Academic All-American, along with senior Mike Paul. Whitney Hoyt was named an All-American Honorable Mention.

The Critic

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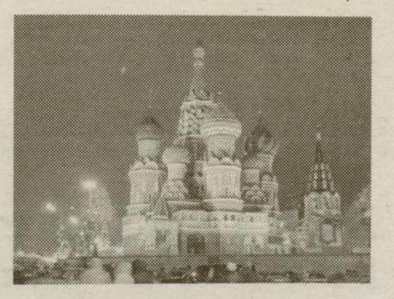


Get to know the real Russia as Shandi Barclay saw it while on a school-sponsored trip. pg.6

Meet the two faces behind the SGA

By Ben Holbrook
Managing Editor

Even with the student body's relative lack of knowledge about the role of SGA on campus, its two advisers work quietly behind the scenes to keep things running smoothly.

Brandon Buckley and Kate Murphy, advisers to SGA, are a driving force behind the club. Both advisers are required to be involved in the club as part of their residence hall director contracts.

Even with previous experience with organizations similar to SGA, both advisors still encounter problems, Buckley said. "I have a background heavily in student activities and student governments," Buckley said. One of the biggest issues is getting the SGA group to understand the role that both advisers play, Buckley said.

Another issue is with "people trusting our input," Murphy said.

There are also difficulties encountered with trying to increase awareness about SGA's purpose, "it is an uphill battle to get information out there," Murphy said.

As advisers, both Murphy and Buckley are there in order to interpret SGA's constitution, take care of the nuts and bolts, and to "put out fires," Murphy said. Murphy and Buckley also act as a sounding board for ideas from the group.

One advantage for SGA is the fact that "we have a lot of insight into the school," Buckley said. "Ultimately we may offer different perspectives on issues," Murphy said.

With three years of experience in SGA, both Buckley and Murphy have seen numerous changes including a more recent change to a unified system, which has increased the overall efficiency of SGA, Murphy said.

This year there is a larger variety of representatives, which generated much greater discussion, and consideration of the issues," Murphy said. Both advisers like the new system but "I would like to get students to the point where they feel like it [the system] will succeed," Buckley said.

Buckley and Murphy do not serve SGA exclusively, "we're not just here for students but also for the community," Buckley said. Buckley and Murphy have been involved in community-based programs such as a Santa fund, Oxfam, and a shelter walk.

"We're here to support anyone in whatever they want to do," Buckley said. Students are encouraged to drop by the SGA office and propose any ideas they have for something they would like to do either on the campus or off campus, Murphy said. Students are also welcome to voice any concerns that they may have.

Since neither Buckley nor Murphy will be advisers to SGA forever, both would like to see that after they leave, "we hope that we have instilled enough respect to do it [SGA] justice."

Photo by Ryan Lee

Brandon Buckley and Kate Murphy both serve as advisers to the Student Government Association. While their contracts state that only one of them has to serve as an adviser, both choose to do it anyway.

House rep submits plan to fix budget crunch

Catherine Story
Business Manager

Kathryn Mozer, a senior Meteorology major, and SGA Sigma Zeta Beta Alpha club represenative sent an e-mail urging SGA members to cut the CAB budget by $30,000.

"The advisors do not run student government we do. Remember that we all have a say and a voice," Mozer said through e-mail to the other SGA members.

"I realized that something weird was going on," Mozer said. "We are supposed to cut $20,000 from our clubs and organizations?"

CAB is asking for over $30,000 more than they did the previous year. All of the other clubs combined are asking for $3,000 more.

CAB's budget during the 2007-2008 school year was $83,750. This coming school year CAB requested $119,500. That is a $35,750 increase from the previous year.

Mozer said that the other club and elected representatives could cut CAB during budgeting instead of cutting their own budgets.

"The clubs plan to cut $30,000 from CAB" SGA president Jonathan Maciel said.

"An hour before Kathryn sent her e-mail I sent an e-mail to Carol Moore and Jonathan Davis saying that CAB should automatically be cut down to fifty percent," Maciel said. "The excess would go into the SGA general fund."

This method would ensure that CAB did not dominate the money provided by the student activity fee. At the same time it would allow CAB to tap into the excess money if necessary.

"The thing about cutting CAB is, say they do get cut. CAB will always get 50 percent even if the figures are larger than expected," Maciel said.

There are currently 12 out of 24 clubs who are getting less than they received last year.

"We are not complaining about them getting 50 percent. It's when they're getting a lot more than that," Maciel said.

Budgeting is always a difficult time in the SGA and not every club is always satisfied.

"Stuff like this happens all the time during budgeting," Maciel said. "Cuts happen all the time and everyone is going to get hit with cuts."

Maciel said that the SGA would work smoother if there were more students involved

"We are all trying to do the best we can to recuperate before next year," Maciel said. "The more representatives you have the less work each person has to do."

Maciel said that the meetings would not run as long if there were more participants

"Logic says that if you meet less you meet longer," Maciel said.

Photo by Keith Whitcomb Jr.

Kathryn Mozer, meteorology major and treasurer of Sigma Zeta as well as its House representative came up with a plan to save the House from its current budgeting woes.

As things stand in the House now, the clubs woudld have to severely cut their budgets to get within the amount allotted to them.

Student's car gets plowed under

By Joey Stewart
Special to The Critic

A vehicle in the Stonehenge parking lot has recently become visible with the melting of snow after being buried and repeatedly plowed in over the past two months.

The car had been completely covered over with snow, and has yet to show itself in its entirety, although a small portion of the vehicle is now in plain view.

"I first noticed it over break," Sara Marquette, a sophomore, said. "It was pretty covered, but you could still see that it was red. I think that it has been there since the first plowing that was done in that parking lot."

"I don't know what the deal is with that car," Charles Forest, a Public Safety Officer said. "My boss told me that it was fine where it is. I don't really know who it belongs to, or whether it belongs to a student or a faculty member. We are not liable for any damage that has been done to the car. George Hacking sent out multiple e-mails, letting students know about plowing being done in that area."

"They e-mail you when they want you to move your car, and will give you a set time to do so," Marquette said. "And say that they will tow your car if it is not moved. The owner of this car probably either did not get the e-mail, or maybe their car would not start."

The vehicle actually belongs to Rebecca Paskell, a sophomore, and it is a 1994, burgundy, Ford Mercury Sable.

"I had it towed up here in January when I moved into the dorms. I rolled it over a year ago and ever since then it has real problems," Paskell said. "It lasted me about a year before it crapped out. I was in the middle of a class when I got the e-mail, and I could not go out and move it in time, so it got buried."

Public Safety does not know why the car was not towed instead of being plowed under the way that it was and said that maintenance is in charge of the plowing and snow removal, Forest said.

"I don't think that they should have plowed all that snow up against it," Marquette said. "But I don't think that Public Safety or Maintenance is responsible for any damages to the vehicle. It's the student's responsibility to move their cars when they get the e-mails."

"I don't really care about any damage done to my car," Paskell said. "What are they going to do, damage it worse than it already is? It is a storage locker for right now, it's filled with all kinds of crap. I am going to see if I can get some burly men to help me dig my car out because I think that I am going to need the help, or maybe I will talk to Maintenance and see if they will help me with some of their equipment."

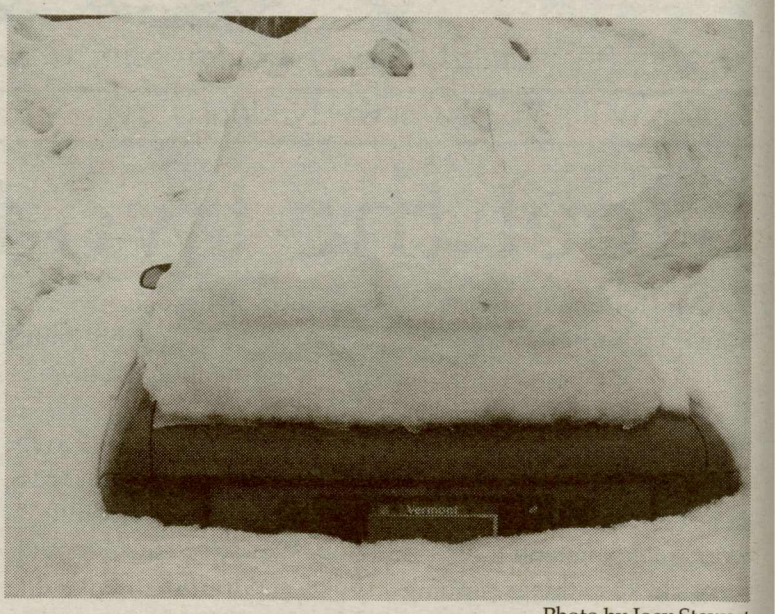
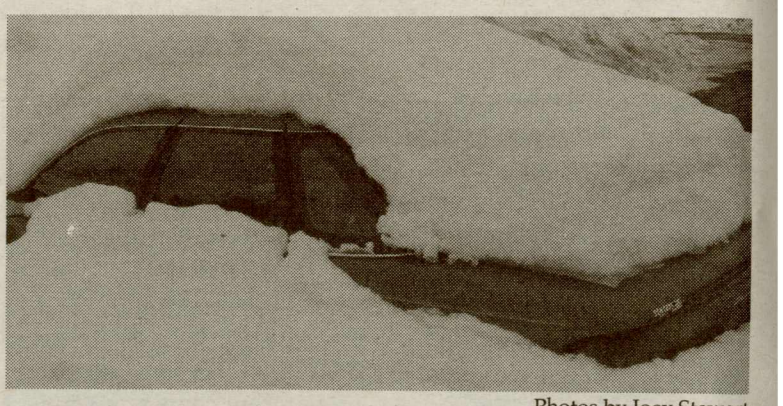


Photo by Joey Stewart

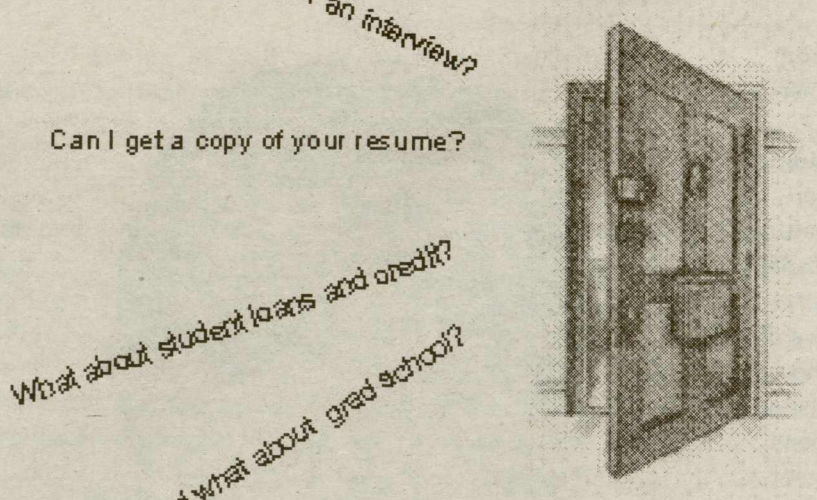
Paskell's car is buried beneath mounds of snow in the back corner of the Stonehenge parking lot.



Photos by Joey Stewart

This car won't be going very far anytime soon since there are large snowbanks piled up next to it. Maintenance has repeatedly plowed snow up against the car since the second semester began in January.

The Real World's Knocking...



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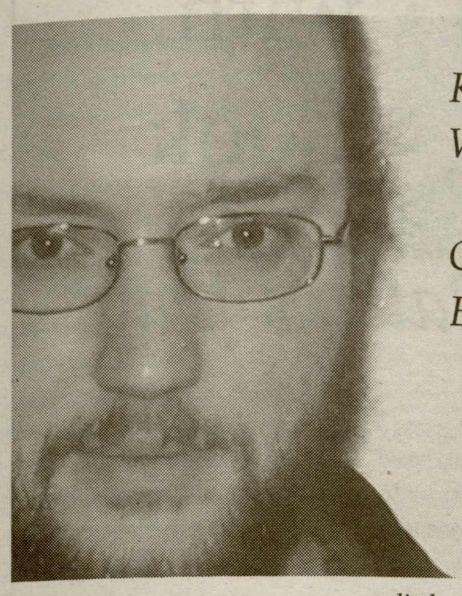
AT THE SGA OFFICE

LSC students: this is all your fault



Keith Whitcomb Jr.

Critic Editor

We've all said to ourselves at some point, "Man, LSC sucks."

Admit it, no matter how much you might like this college, there are things about it that annoy you; the parking stinks, the res halls are depressing, the food is awful, the curriculum doesn't meet students' needs. Everybody's got something to moan about.

For all the griping we do, how many of us actually stop and do something about it? When's the last time something on this campus pissed you off and you took action to change it?

No, this isn't a "get out the vote" plug, and no, I'm not telling you to be a good little student and volunteer to help the community. There are plenty of students who volunteer their time and effort to put up posters, organize events, and feed orphans or whatever. Maybe they do it out of the goodness of their hearts and maybe it looks good on a résumé, I don't know and I don't care.

What I do know is that there are lot of irritated people on campus who are content to grumble from class to class, then back to their dorm room where they poke around on the Internet all night, drink, do a little homework, and maybe sleep.

I'll use the latest hot topic as an example: The "new smoking policy", the one that bans lighting up from anywhere on campus except for parking lots. I spoke to a lot of smokers when the news got out, and not a single one was happy about it. Oh, you should've heard the grand plans that were laid. One guy was going to hand out cigars to people Jan. 1, most were going to simply ignore it, some even said they'd smoke inside.

The coup de grace of all the anti-smoking ban ideas was the protest that was going to be held; the kind with signs and standing around shouting things. Before he was elected Student Government Association president, Jon Maciel was going to be involved in this. Maciel himself is a smoker, you can see him out in the parking lots these days, puffing away, but what happened to his protest? It's been a long time since Jan. 1.

He became SGA president, that's what happened.

"It wouldn't have been appropriate for me to be involved," Maciel said. "Besides stepping on the toes of the administration, which I'm trying to work with."

Let's give Maciel some credit; he has said that he would support a protest if someone organized one, but he's not going to initiate it.

So, LSC students, there's your president. That's the guy who's theoretically supposed to be your voice to the administration, unless of course they don't like what you have to say, then you're on your own.

Don't even think of complaining about Maciel. No one, aside from a write-in candidate, ran against Maciel in the last election. The SGA hasn't had a full executive board since last spring. As soon as the positions get filled, someone on the board steps down. First was Stephen Farrow, the secretary, second it was Michael Hannan, the vice president. I'm amazed we even have a treasurer at the moment.

Not long ago, the student Senate had 19 senators, enough to meet separately from the student House, which they no longer do. Guess how many senators we've got now? Four. We had five, but Ashley Mullen resigned (with an e-mail Haiku no less). As for House reps, they're appointed by clubs, but they've got quite a high turnover rate as well.

I'm sure the people who have resigned from their posts had their reasons, but it doesn't change the fact that getting people to step up to the plate and get things done on campus is like pulling teeth.

But I'm not here to shill the student government, nor am I advocating community service. I'm telling you that if there's something you don't like about LSC, *do something about it.* I have yet to hear one of the student senators bring a complaint or a suggestion to the House that they got from a student. Maciel might have put aside his own crusades in order to keep the administration happy, but truth be told, I don't see any other smokers organizing protests either.

There are only about a thousand reasons/excuses to keep far away from the SGA, the clubs, or any other extracurricular activity. Go right ahead and make them if you want, I'm sure for some people, they're legit, but the next time you see something on campus you think is stupid, or is giving you the proverbial shaft, you've really only got yourself to blame because you didn't, and most likely won't, do anything about it.

Moments Like These

Beyond the View: the September I turned thirteen

By Trish Pennypacker

The September I turned 13, the leaves changed rapidly from golden to brown. Buried under pungent mounds, the last blossoms of summer went unnoticed as my family and I moved the few boxes of our belongings into a rundown rental house. With most of our possessions already given to those "less fortunate" than us (though at the time I doubted anyone else could be less fortunate) the almost bare rooms of the rental house echoed with every word, every step; and the sprawling yard with its apple trees, pond, and beloved hammock, slung low beneath the birch trees, had been traded for a sorry strip of brown grass, two garbage cans, a disintegrating wood pile, a rusty propane tank and a view of the neighbor's clothesline, underwear and all. My large, sunny yellow bedroom with the un-tuned but joyful piano and overcrowded bookcase had been replaced by a small room under the eves, faded and peeling rose printed wallpaper, drafty floor boards, and a scuffed up nightstand to place my Bible on. And in the crummy confines of that dreary bedroom, my face pressed to the cold window, I watched the sun rise and set; my eyes seeing, but not really understanding the glimpses of community that shuffled below.

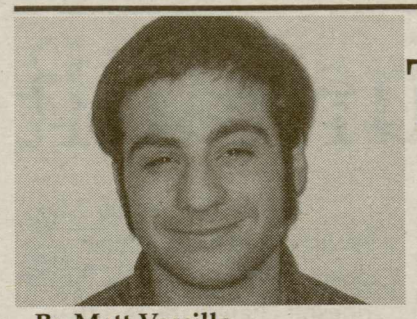
Every morning, about seven o'clock, with the sun barely filtering through tree branches, I'd hear kids lining up for the school bus. By ten o'clock, my neighbor would walk by with his limping Bassett Hound, followed by a teenager and her child. They were going to the post office, which I could see from my window if I cranked my neck far enough. In and out of the doors people went, chattering and laughing as they flipped through the daily mail. Sometimes it was enough to watch these people from my small window, but other times, I felt isolated.

I never accepted my father's idea that to save the world we must separate from the world. Everything that has made any difference in my life includes people. I used to ask my father why, if Jesus came to save the world and lived among men, we had to live in isolation? My questions only frustrated my father. I blamed my father for my sense of isolation until books began to fill my void. In books, I lived vicariously, learning about how human life grows and thrives in communities.

Now that I have a daughter, I understand what it feels like to not have answers. Her questions, layered upon everything, grow more complex by day and I'm not always sure how to respond. Sometimes, in my own frustration, I find myself imitating my father's famous "just because." This is never the right answer. "Just because" leads to indifference and the mass of people who don't really care. "Just because" breaks down communities: "Just because they are homeless, doesn't mean we need to house them in this neighborhood." But it is just because of that dark, early adolescent year, in the isolation of that dingy bedroom, staring helplessly at the world below, that I am now able to see beyond the view of the post office.

Community is important, but the individual sense of what makes a community is selfish. Do we include teenage mothers, the disabled, and those with opposing points of view, or do we just consider those that will bring a stronger financial and ethical boost to the town? It's amazing what we take for face value. I now realize that the same sweet old man that used to walk his dog by my window could possibly have hated the idea that a teenage mother lived next door to him. He could also have been against the programs that kept her on her feet. He could have easily believed she should "get what she deserves." But what does she, or anyone else, deserve?

In months like these when the cold has spread deep through the hills and tree branches are brittle and bare, the darkness seems relentless. As Barry Lopez says, "Winter darkness shuts off the far view. The cold drives you deep into your clothing, muscles you back into your home. Even the mind retreats back into itself." But to watch life pass by, with no care beyond the present view, means that nothing beyond us matters, everything is "just because", and acts of human kindness are not enough to create a positive change in the world. That is not the life I wish to lead. I spent the dark season of my youth retreating; I am ready now for the coming light of spring.



The flapping jaw

Student opinion of SGA

By Matt Vercillo
Critic Columnist

The problem with being asked to write a column on the SGA, is that I really wasn't sure exactly what the SGA was. After a few minutes of consideration, I figured that it was most likely an acronym for Student Government Association. I had never bothered to give it any thought.

I was a little concerned that after being a student at LSC for an honest five years or so, I had relatively no recollection of any SGA members or anything they did, besides a faint memory of an impeachment due to the personal hygiene of the president.

This one event, and the words represented in their acronym; were the limits of my knowledge.

The extent of my research consisted of a fairly thorough inspection of the Lyndon State College Web site, from which I found a few basic principles. Rather than spending an hour trying to navigate the page's intricate web of menus and tabs, I simply typed SGA into the search box, which brought me the SGA page as the first result.

The specific page can be found at this address: http://www.lyndonstate.edu/officesservices/studentlife/studentgovernmentassociation/tabid/551/Default.aspx

The information was somewhat confusing, due to a strange layout consisting of a paragraph with a few loose bullets tacked oddly on the end like afterthoughts. Copied and pasted word for word it says the following:

"The purpose of the SGA is to promote the educational, social, and general welfare of the students of Lyndon State College. The SGA serves all members of the student body.

- to anticipate and stimulate the interests of the students through the use of student run clubs, and activities.

- to distribute and use the money acquired by the Student Activities Fee for the benefit of the LSC student body.

- to speak on the behalf of the students by presenting student opinion to the faculty, staff, and administration of Lyndon State College."

The first paragraph seems like an explanation, and the bulleted statements appear to be goals or initiatives. Great, so now I had the vague, public relation type answer, but I wanted to know more specifically what they had done for my welfare during my long and industrious career as a member of the student body. Especially since now, I was aware that the SGA was in charge of distributing the Student Activities Fee. The fee is 188 dollars per semester for full-time undergraduate students.

I couldn't remember ever being intrigued by any activities on campus and wondered where my money had gone.

So, rather than going through any more conventional or legitimate means of attaining knowledge about the club, I decided to ask around and collect a popular opinion of the SGA from some fellow students. I started by asking people to tell me what the SGA was, and everything they knew about it.

All of the students I interviewed seemed about as informed as I was.

"I'm not really sure, I thought that they had something to do with the events planned on campus...or is that CAB?" remarked senior Joe Gelinas,. "What's the difference? There are never any good events anyway. Someone should actually try and figure out what the students want before they plan events."

The more I asked around, I seemed to get most of the same sentiments. It was becoming clear that even though the SGA obviously did something around here, the general public was relatively clueless about their contributions.

"What's the SGA?" said senior Gerrin Goodwin. "Oh wait, is it the Gay Straight Alliance...no, no that's the GSA. Oh yea, Student Government, right?"

I informed him that he was correct.

"The only thing I remember is the whole impeachment thing. He was weird and smelled bad. It doesn't seem like they do a lot for us, and if they do I don't know what it is."

Now it was clear to me that I wasn't the only one in the dark about all this. Nobody I asked could even name the SGA President (I couldn't either until I started writing this).

It was getting towards deadline and still I couldn't find any students with any useful information about the SGA. I decided to give up; it felt like it could be days, weeks, or even months before I found a student that was in the know.

So, I found out what the SGA was, but never pinpointed exactly what they do, except that supposedly they do something.

If this agonizing search for knowledge has taught me anything about the SGA it's that they need to be more public with their procedures, decisions, and actions. Maybe, as students we carry a certain degree of responsibility towards knowing how things like this work within our academic community. So it's possible, that it could be my own fault that I was so uninformed.

All I know is that as I sit here staring into a cooling bowl of ramen noodles and sipping a lukewarm glass of tap water, I sure wish I had $188 right now.

Cooking with Cook

On St. Patty's Day

Gwen Cook
Critic Columnist

St. Patrick's Day is a time for celebration and party's. Here are a few traditional recipes to try and serve at your own celebration.

Tipsy Cake

1 pound Stale cake (pound — angel)
3 tablespoons Jam
5 fluid ounces Sherry
1 pint Warm custard
10 fluid ounces Whipped cream

Break up the cake or cakes and gently mix the jam through — the mixture does not have to be completely even. Place in a glass bowl. Mix sherry and whisky and sprinkle over cake. Press down lightly. Pour custard over the cake, and chill. Then spoon whipped cream over top and serve.

Frozen Black Irish

1 Part Coffee Liqueur
1 Part Irish Cream
1 Part Vodka
1-2 Scoops Chocolate Ice Cream

Mix ingredients in a blender and then add ice. Blend until smooth.

Bubble and Squeak

5 medium Potatoes; peeled, boiled, and diced
1/2 pound Bacon; broken in to 1 inch pieces
1 Head cabbage — cut 1/4" slice
1/2 cup Water
Salt to taste
Extra water

In large iron skillet, brown bacon. Remove bacon. Pour off all grease except 2-3 tbsp. Add cabbage and 1/2 cup water. Cover and cook over low heat about 20 minutes.

Add potatoes and cabbage along with the bacon. Add salt to taste. Cook another 10 minutes. Extra water may be added while cabbage is cooking, but during last few minutes let mixture brown.

Letter to the editor regarding live music on campus

Dear Editor,

I couldn't agree more with Matt Vercillo's article! Some bands/fans seem to have trouble distinguishing noise from music. Maybe if someone tries to organize a show like this again, we can just scrap the bands and I'll turn my guitar up and let it feed back for three hours or so. Heck, we could throw a couple microphones up in the classrooms and scratch the chalkboards. Maybe the high schoolers would like it.

All sarcasm aside, most of the music that I heard that night (though I can't say I was there for very long) was absolute mind-numbing noise. Get it out of here!

-Sam Utz

Letter about live music on campus

Dear Editor,

We couldn't stop laughing after picking up a copy of The Critic, people ask us if we are upset, when we think it is amazing for pointing out exactly what we are, kids with skinny jeans and a style of music you just don't understand, and good job;

1. Not including our name, when we clearly said it.

2. Not spelling bands names right... I don't know who Our Drowning City is, but they sound...amazing.

3. Making us laugh and making us feel special. Congrats, you have made our night

Please come to our show at The VFW in St J on March 29th starts at 5, THIS drowning city will be there :]

P.S.

The reason only high school kids were at our show was because this school lacks any kind of scene whatsoever, the kids that did come, are called "fans", from VT and NH, the small group of "scene" kids (look that word up in urban dictionary, pal)that live for this music.

Richard Champine,
Love Shipwrecked Smiles (The Band you forgot to mention)

Is this the end of GSA's Drag Ball?

By Andrew R. Koch
Critic Staff

The Campus Activities Board (CAB) has offered their services to the Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) group to put on their annual Drag Ball.

With their numbers dwindling, GSA was nearly forced to cancel their annual Drag Ball, easily their most popular event each year. The GSA is still looking to get some of its members to help out with the event, specifically with setting up and breaking down. However, getting members to show up to their meetings has been a problem this semester.

"Last semester, some of our old members dropped out due to personal issues," GSA President Khristina Jaborek said, adding that one of the former members was about to be placed on academic probation.

Jaborek admits that the group's meeting time isn't the most convenient for its members. On Wednesday, only five members showed up to the meeting as they prepared for the most recent Student Government budget meeting later that night.

"We have 30 members. We're trying to set up a second meeting time during the week so more of our members can attend," Jaborek said. She also said that some of the group's members just couldn't be depended on to attend the meetings.

Jaborek says that the GSA hasn't received a good name or reputation in the past.

"People don't really know what it is," said the club's advisor, Hope Abarno. She says that a lot of people simply assume that the group is for gays only. It turns out, however, that this isn't actually the case.

"Most of our members are straight or bi (sexual)," Abarno said.

It is unknown at this time when the Drag Ball will be held.

Photo by Ryan Lee

This wireless router is one of the many private routers around campus. In order to comply with the new federal law, they will have to be protected by the IT department.

Wireless goes private

By Ben Holbrook
Critic Staff

A change in Federal laws forced LSC to tighten security on their wireless network.

Eight months ago, a Federal law was changed in order to allow the government to monitor all network traffic. Initially, all educational institutions were asked to install new software, which would cost thousands of dollars, Mike Dente, head of IT, said.

The educational institutions lobbied against having to pay for new software and instead, they were simply required to limit the accessibility of their networks, Dente said. "Someone could drive into a parking lot and hop on the network," Dente said. Now that authentication is required to access the network, it will slow people down who try to use the wireless network who don't attend, or work at, LSC.

"Generally we don't have a problem with people jumping on our wireless," Dente said.

If LSC didn't comply with the new guidelines on protecting the wireless network then it would be taken down.

The only problems encountered so far with the changes to the wireless network access are that many students deleted or simply skipped over the e-mail that had the new password, Dente said.

Another issue that needs to be addressed is the fact that many students have wireless routers in their dorms that aren't protected, which is in violation of the new federal law, Dente said. In order to deal with this, IT would conduct an audit either later this semester or in the fall and any routers that aren't protected, IT would help to protect, Dente said.

"It's not a problem as long as they [wireless routers] are secure," Dente said.

Equipment is being put up that would allow for students to have wireless access in their dorms in which case, students with their own routers would be asked to remove them, Dente said. "I don't want to have to take it [wireless routers] away," Dente said.

It is a possibility that the password to access the wireless network would be changed in order to slow people down who aren't part of the LSC community from using it, Dente said.

Hope on the horizon for Aramark foods

By Brian Howe
Special to the Critic

In an effort to make the eating experience more enjoyable for students, Aramark recently renovated the dining hall.

Director of Aramark food services told of how the renovations are only a small step in the future. "Takes time, takes money but we are moving in the right direction."

Tom Archer, director of Physical Plant, along with sub-contractors, worked on the wiring so it could support the new incoming equipment.

The maintenance staff also joined in to help. They also had to put in a few more tiles on the floor, so look down next time you take a journey into the dining hall.

It took him, along with Aramark, six days over winter break to make these renovations happen. One of the reasons is to bring the dining hall up to date. Before this renovation, it looked like a 70's style eating cafeteria but they have brought it into the twenty first century. "It looks great, people that are visiting will find it more appealing, and it is not prison like, but they put the sandwich bar in the middle of a high traffic area," Mark Evens, a freshmen, said.

Some of the changes include cooking on a smaller scale so it won't be sitting out there to long, also the food is done to order. Next time you stop by ask them for the food you want. The college paid for this renovation but there are still more to come.

Now some say the taste of the food is bad. "Food is not good, they need better variety," TJ Ramsay, a freshmen graphic design major, said. However, there is good news on the horizon as the staff at Aramark is going to be trained in the future to prepare tastier food.

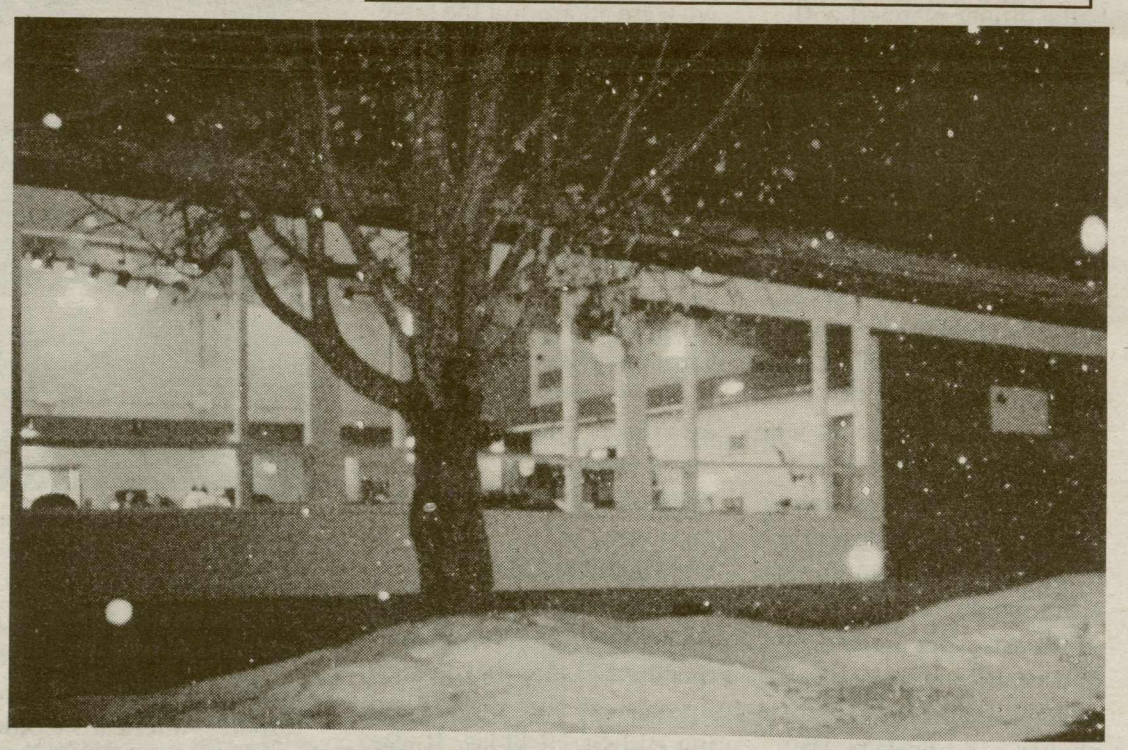
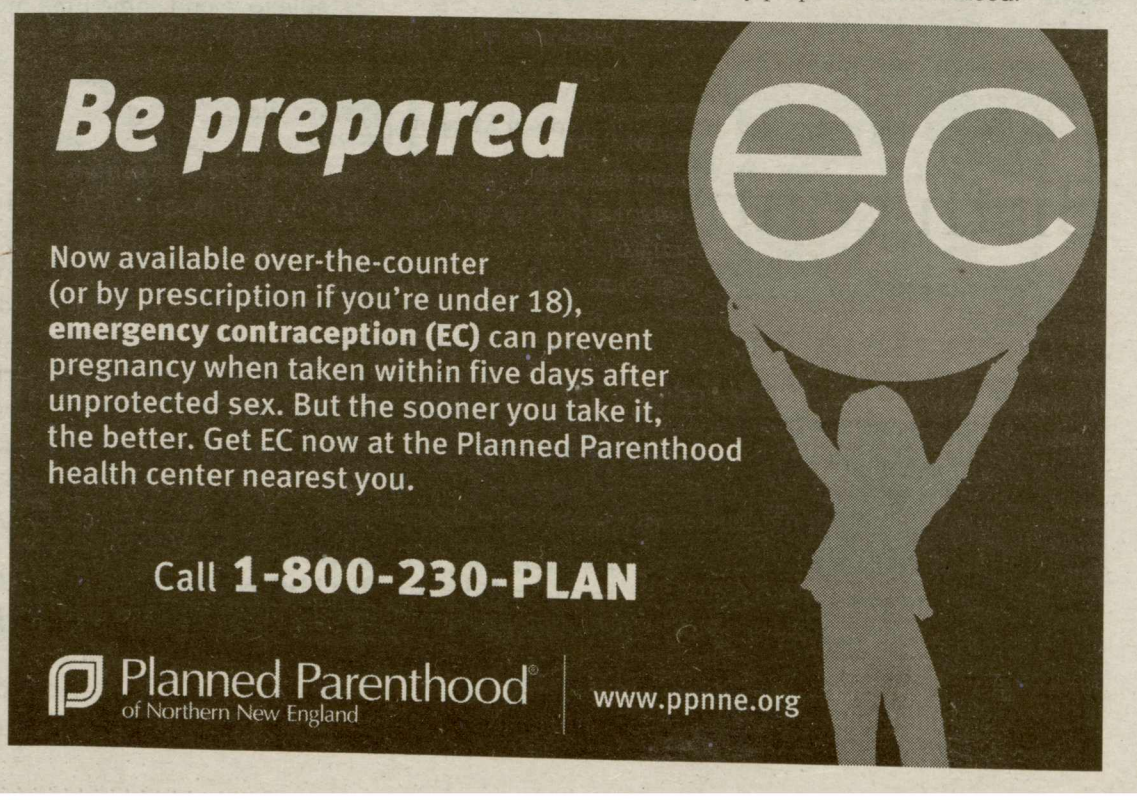


Photo by Ryan Lee

Aramark is undergoing many changes from their look to the way they prepare and serve food.



Lyndon students send love from Russia

By Shandi Barclay
Travel Correspondent

In America we see a certain image of Russia; how cold and uninviting the culture seems or how they have poor health care, etc.

They don't get to see the yelling of jokes across delicious and massive dinners, nor do they see the beautiful buildings, the rich historical districts, or the country's advancing modernity.

The LSC cadre consisted of our teacher and leader Dr. Strokanov, his good friend and our driver, whom we dubbed "Alexandre Two", Katie Gilbert (LSC alumni), and fellow students; Jennifer Driver, Caitlin Murphy, Amanda Winter, Avery Williams, and Aimee Bathalon.

We did some of the usual tourist sightseeing; the Kremlin, St. Basil's, a couple museums, but for the most part, every night we had an experience with the Russian culture and different people.

One of our first nights we had a dinner planned with Alexandre Two's brother-in-law, a Russian Muslim and former military general. We got there and sat down for dinner and drinks.

As the evening progressed everyone loosened up and soon we,were all laughing, joking, and telling stories. We asked the general questions about his life in the military, how he met his wife, and about why he was a vodka-drinking, pork-eating Muslim (to which he jokingly responded "the Communists make me do it").

Toasts were made every five minutes with each toast taking double that time to announce and translate. We made final toasts to them being such wonderful hosts and they responded back with one about how great we were as guests.

We learned that night that Russian hospitality was much more generous than expected.

The next morning we visited a beautiful church, where the highest archbishop in the region took an hour of his time to guide us through the church. We went out that night to a giant mall complex for a very 'traditional' Russian dinner and activity of pizza and bowling.

There were hundreds of stores and a huge arcade. This seemed like the epitome of modernity, that as Vermonters, we don't even really see in the United States.

For our next stop, we drove on back roads for a long time. Our cabin was one of probably seven houses on the entire road. It was very rustic with electricity that only worked when the wind wasn't blowing. Despite that, we just reminded ourselves that very few people get the opportunity to do what we were experiencing, and had a great time.

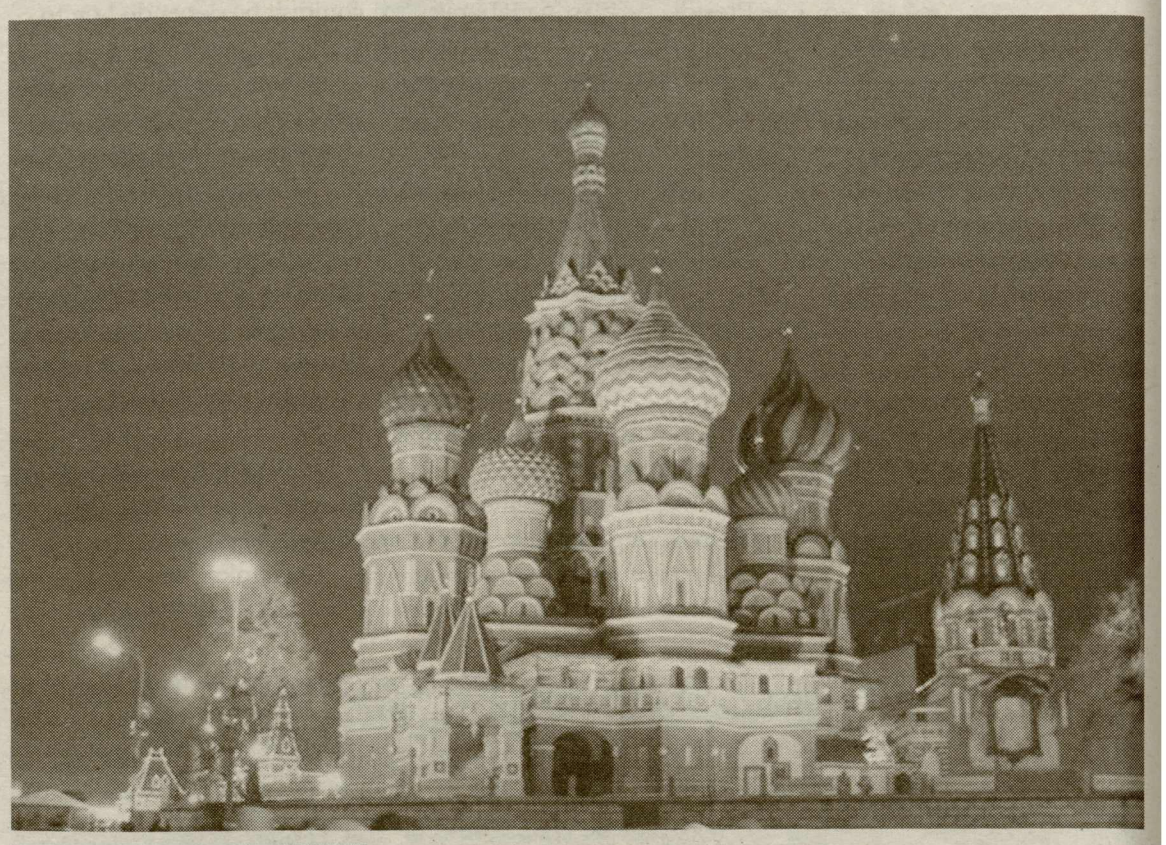
Our hosts cooked us a large dinner and before long we were all around the table singing, eating, toasting, joking, and telling stories. We learned quickly that singing was a large part of their culture.

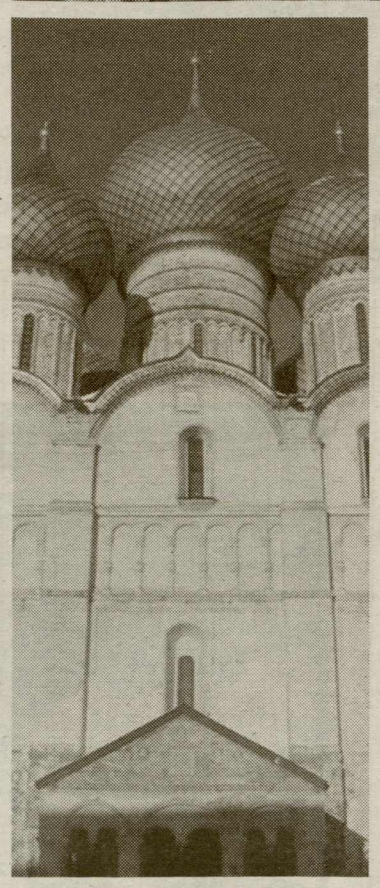
They sang folk songs often and everyone would join in.

That day was also their Christmas Eve, so to celebrate we went into the nearest village. There was a talent show going on with people singing and dancing on stage.

Their version of Santa Clause was giving out "presents" to different audience members. Later they got us up on stage with them, dancing with St. Nicholas. It was fun and proved how energetic and exuberant their culture was.

We had our last dinner at Alexandre Two's house in a suburb outside of Moscow,





where we toasted to a wonderful trip with a lot of cultural understanding and many memories. As a group, we learned a lot about Russia and its people.

Many Americans would have a very different image of Russia if everyone was just able to spend some time in their culture and have a chance to experience what we did.

Above: St. Basil's Cathedral at night on the Red Square in Moscow

Left: monastery in Rostov known as Rostov the Great to Russians.

Directly below: LSC students in Rostov.(from left to right), Caitlin Murphy, Avery Williams, Aimee Bathalon, Alexandre Strokanov, Amanda Winters, Katie Gilbert, Jennifer Driver, Shandi Barclay
Further Below: A monastery in a little unknown town

Photos courtesy of Shandi Barclay

Birth control prices shoot from $3 to $10 per pack

By Jennifer Ingram
Critic Staff

There are millions of college students that are facing the fact that birth control prices are sky rocketing.

Prices for oral contraceptives or birth control pills are nearly doubling at student health centers, the reason being the complex changes in the Medicaid rebate law.

Nationwide students are paying nearly $20 per month for prescriptions that were costing them $10 only a few months ago.

Due to the increase, college students are starting to have to make tough choices regarding birth control such as, purchasing cheaper brands of birth control, or all together not using birth control.

When the Deficient Reduction Act went into effect in 2007, one of the downsides was that birth control costs for colleges has skyrocketed.

"A case of birth control used to cost $400. It now costs $4000. Students costs used to be $3 a pack and now it's gone up to $10," Miriam Simon said.

According to the article, Birth Control Prices Soar on Campuses, about 39 percent of undergraduate women use oral contraceptives, according to an estimate by the American College Health Association based on survey data.

The rising cost of birth control has many health professionals worried.

According to the University of Iowa, worries include unintended pregnancies by women who are less likely to consistently take a daily pill.

There are many college health centers that say the increase in birth control prices are threatening the quality of services that they can provide due to the fact that the increase in prices has eaten into their profits that they can make.

Planned Parenthood is planning a nationwide, college awareness protest/ petition signing event that brings attention to the issue of the increase in cost.

Fun Page

"This week there will not be a random quote at the top of the Fun Page. Got that? No rand... Oh shi-"

Go Ahead... Make My Word!

X	T	X	D	M	J	E	L	Q	X	X	U	B	S	T	Z	N	Y	J	Q	H	W	P	R	J
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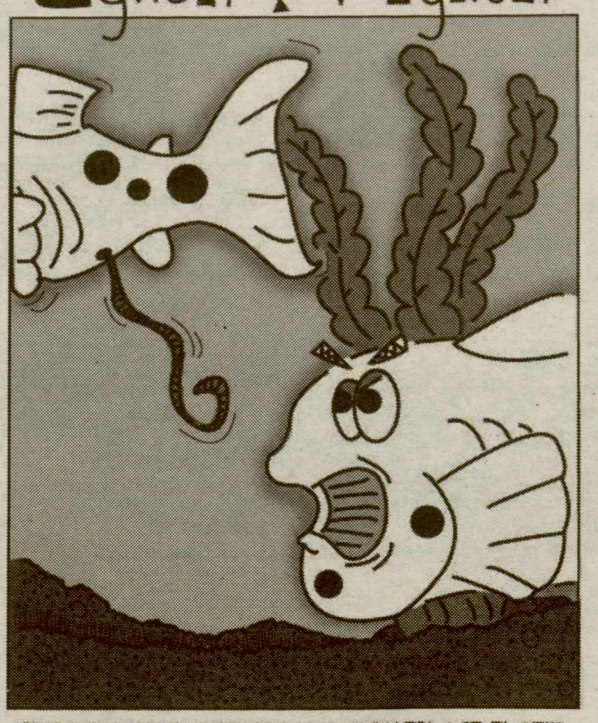
V	N	J	F	I	X	F	I	I	Q	V	F	U	C	K	Y	F	O	U	G	R	C	S	S	O

Note: Some of these words are totally not real. Feel free to use them at your own will. Attach fun meanings to them as well!

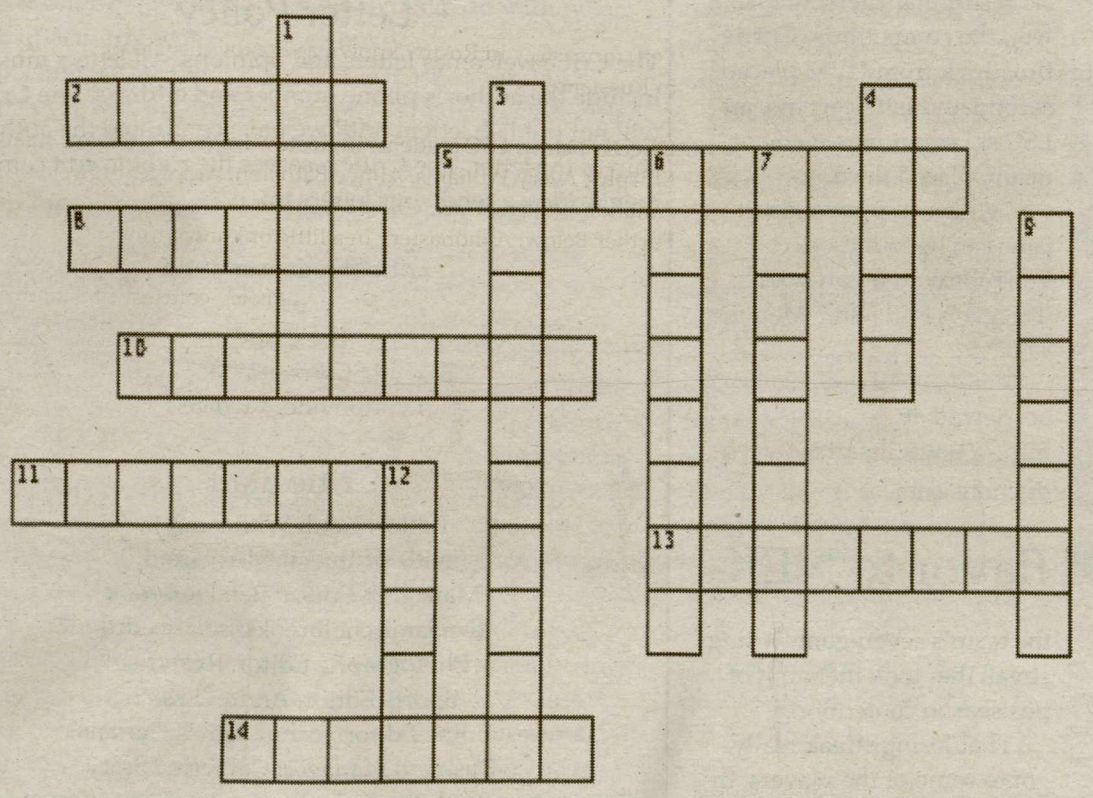
Badgerhat Greeny Softania Microcop Flurbin Beastohopper Beardorage Kinsmen Justice Octoberser Whereas Galacticity Clouckoo Goudy Polaris

Lynch & Flynch



"DO YOU MIND DOING THAT SOMEPLACE ELSE!!"

Crosswords are Pun-ny!



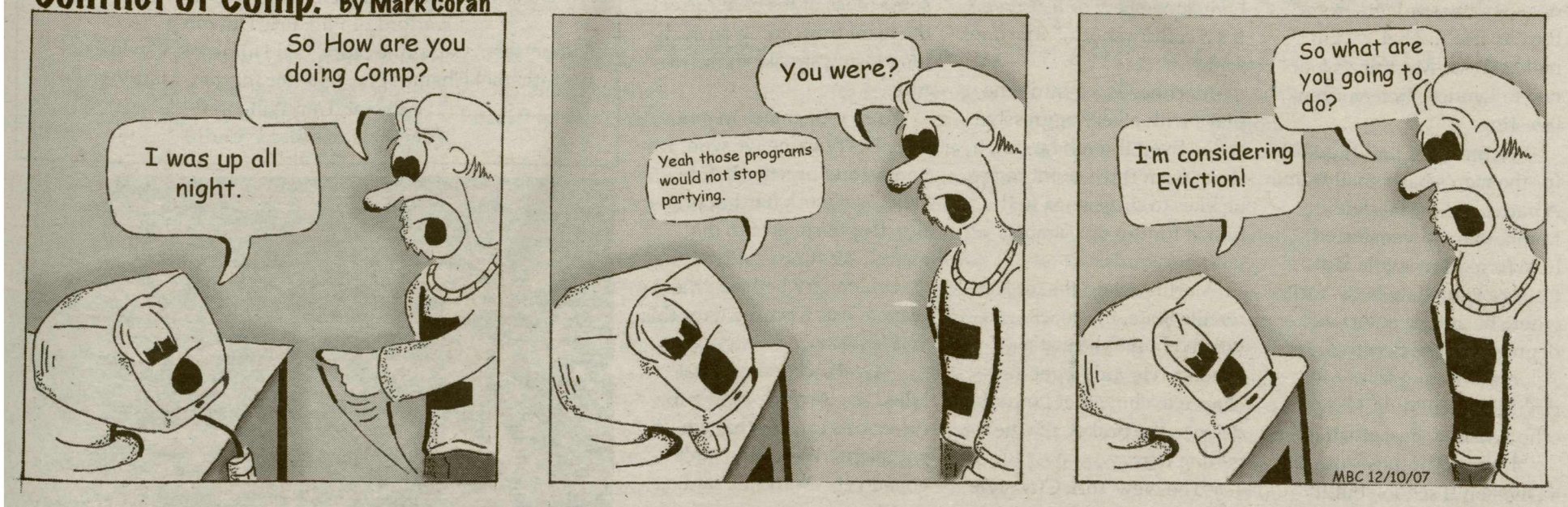
ACROSS

2. I messed up my job at the juice factory. I got _____.
5. A freudian slip is when you say one thing, but mean _____.
8. Does the name _____ ring a bell to you?
10. Corduroy pillows everywhere are making these.
11. The "wrath of grapes."
13. I fired her because she rubbed me the wrong way.
14. The Energizer bunny was arrested yesterday. He was _____ with battery.

DOWN

1. A good pun is its own _____.
3. A condom should be used in every _____ situation.
4. The sword is mightier than the _____.
6. A man needs a mistress to break the _____.
7. Play a fish? I can't even _____.
9. If you sunbathe while reading, you may become _____.
12. A gossip has a good sense of _____.

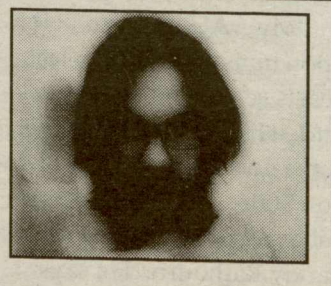
Conflict of Comp. By Mark Coran



STUMPED!?

For solutions to this week's puzzles as well as last week's, visit our site on the Web at lyndonstate.edu/critic. I'm going to use this space like a blog. Hey everybody in cyberspace: I'm 19/M/Lyndonville. I'm looking for a free Sudoku puzzlemaker that allows you to distribute created puzzles. I don't want to have to spend 20 bucks on one! What a pain this could be... PS: Will not reward with pr0ns. Get a grip.

Puzzles Generated by Overlord of Fun... He'll eat your young ones.



Be ascared.

Grinding away at Burke Mountain rail jam

Photos courtesy of Barry Sykes

Left: Braedon Bellavance performs a 50-50 stall on the wall ride at the Burke Mountain Rail Jam. Bellavalance, a ski resort major at LSC, won the snowboarding competition at the rail jam. Right: Nate Bevelaqua rides an A-frame rail as he prepares to do a blindside 270 spin. Bevelaqua, also a ski resort major, took first place among the skiers at the rail jam.

By Catherine Story
Critic Staff

The Rail Jam at Burke Mountain was started by the LSC Daggers and has become a tradition.

Steve Mahon, an LSC alumnus who majored in ski resort management, organized the event.

"The spirit of shred is stronger than ever. Each year, the course design gets more technical and the skiers and riders get even gnarlier," Mahon said.

The winners of the event were divided into two groups snowboarders and skiers.

The snowboarders placed as follows: Braedon Bellavance, an LSC ski resort management major, placed first, followed by Sean Guyer, a senior at Lyndon Institute. Third place went to Seth Demers, a Jay Peak local.

The skiers placed as follows: Nate Bevelaqua, an LSC ski resort management major, won the competition. Currie Broadrick from UVM placed second and Jeff Scarpino, an LSC ski resort management major, placed third.

"Videos of previous rail jams can be found on YouTube.com if you search 'Dagger's Rail Jam," Mahon said.

A video of the rail jam can be viewed at http://www.iheartsnowproductions.com/

Transfer player brings Big Apple flavor to NEK

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

Lyndon State College has a number of students from the New York Tri-State area, but not so many students from the city itself. That's what makes Cesar Martinez's journey to Lyndon State very interesting.

Martinez is a junior guard for the men's basketball team. A native of East Harlem in Manhattan, he transferred here from Morrisville State College in upstate New York, where he got his associate's degree in Social Sciences. After graduating from Morrisville, he still didn't have a school to play basketball at.

"I was getting recruited by a Division II school, but it didn't work out." This is when his youth basketball coach came in to help.

"My AAU coach took it upon himself to look at last year's schedule," Martinez said. His coach saw that he had a good game against Lyndon State, and then Martinez got a call from head coach Randy Rathburn. He says there's a stark contrast between where he grew up and where he's going to college now, and that he really just ended up here.

"I never thought in my wildest dreams I'd end up here, move here or live here. It's a culture shock," Martinez said.

Martinez is a guard who plays with a very aggressive style. Even though he can shoot from three-point range, he likes to drive hard to the basket for lay-ups against taller forwards.

Martinez said that at Morrisville State, the coach wanted him to be just a shooter. He didn't get a chance to show that he could drive to the basket, like he's getting here.

"The New York City style of play is very guard-oriented, so you have to be aggressive. If you're not aggressive, you're not gonna make it," Martinez said.

Martinez was forced into the point guard position this year due to injuries on the team. This was a new role for him because he's always been a shooting guard. Those injuries contributed in part to the team's seven-game losing streak that took them out of postseason contention.

That losing streak really got to some of the players, including Martinez, who had some ideas of his own to keep the team from going on such long losing streaks in the future.

"You win games in practice. Every game we won, we had a good practice before. When we work hard in practice, it spills over into the game," Martinez said, adding that chemistry between the players was a problem for this year's team.

"It's our chemistry that killed us. Anyone sitting in the stands can see that we've got talent. We just haven't gelled yet," Martinez said.

Martinez, who is studying for a degree in Exercise Science with a concentration in physical therapy, clearly has the drive and passion that will hopefully lead to more success for the men's basketball team as it moves up to NCAA Division III and the North Atlantic Conference next year.

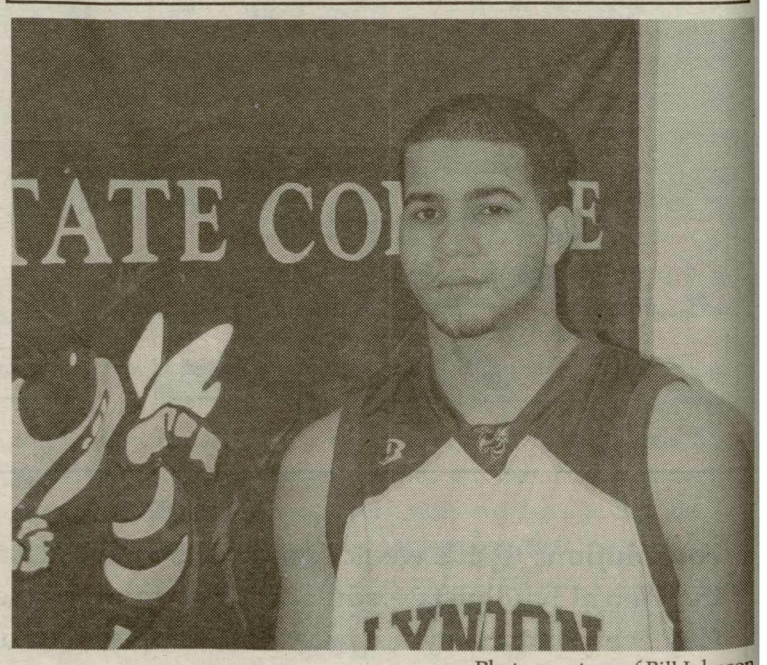


Photo courtesy of Bill Johnson

Cesar Martinez transferred from Morrisville State College (N.Y.) to Lyndon State at the start of last semester. This season, Martinez was among the team leaders in points (15.2 per game), assists (2.8 per game), rebounds (six per game)and steals (1.9 per game).

Letter Policy

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The Critic

Serving the student voice of Lyndon State College

One copy free, extras 50 cents each

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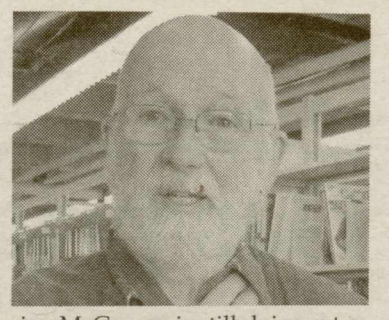

Dorian McGowan is still doing artwork on campus. See inside for samples and the whole story. pg. 5

Budget cuts cause concern for CAB

By Ben Holbrook
Managing Editior

The Campus Activities Board (CAB) recently found itself on the receiving end of budget cuts during Wednesday night's House meeting.

For the first time during a House meeting, CAB had their budget cut in order to prevent the other clubs from having their budgets be further reduced. CAB has an advantage over most clubs since it is guaranteed that the club will receive 50 percent of the student activitiy fees.

CAB's budget for the 2008-2009 year was originally $119,000 but after the recent cuts it was reduced to about $100,000. "Based on this year's costs we'll have to adjust," Kate Murphy, CAB adviser, said in response to the budget cut. Due to rising costs, especially with gas prices, CAB will be forced to scale down, Murphy said.

One of the more expensive events for CAB is the number of bus trips to different places because a bus typically costs about $3000. CAB increased the number of bus trips this year because of their popularity on campus and not because President Carol Moore requested they do so as some believed, Murphy said.

If CAB's budget had been cut below 50 percent then the money would be taken from elsewhere such as, the general fund. "I understand why the cuts needed to be made however, the cuts hurt CAB's ability to host activities," Murphy said. "We'll have to make do with what we have."

CAB asked for more money for next year in order to offset the rising costs associated with the variety of activities that are done. CAB's budget for this year was around $82,000 which was just enough to cover costs, Murphy said. With the bus trips CAB paid a $200-$300 surplus to cover the cost of fuel, Murphy said.

"We'll have to make do with what we have," Murphy said.

The areas of CAB's budget that were cut include their large venue section which covers any events that are held in the Alexander Twilight Theater. These events cost $1,000 or more. The opening weeks section was also cut which would cover costs for the large number of events that are hosted during the first full week of the fall and spring semesters.

Money was also cut from CAB's commuter day funds however, funding will be taken from other areas in order to still host some commuter events, although there won't be as many events, Murphy said. The commuter day events were targeted at students who couldn't attend events later in the evenings.

Fund raising could be a future task undertaken by CAB although, it is very difficult to raise the amount of money CAB lost through fund raising alone, Murphy said.

In the future Murphy would, "love to see people come to the meetings so that they can better understand why CAB gets so much money." If students have any suggestions they are encouraged to email either Murphy or Brandon Buckley.

CAB meets at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday nights in the CAB office in the student center.

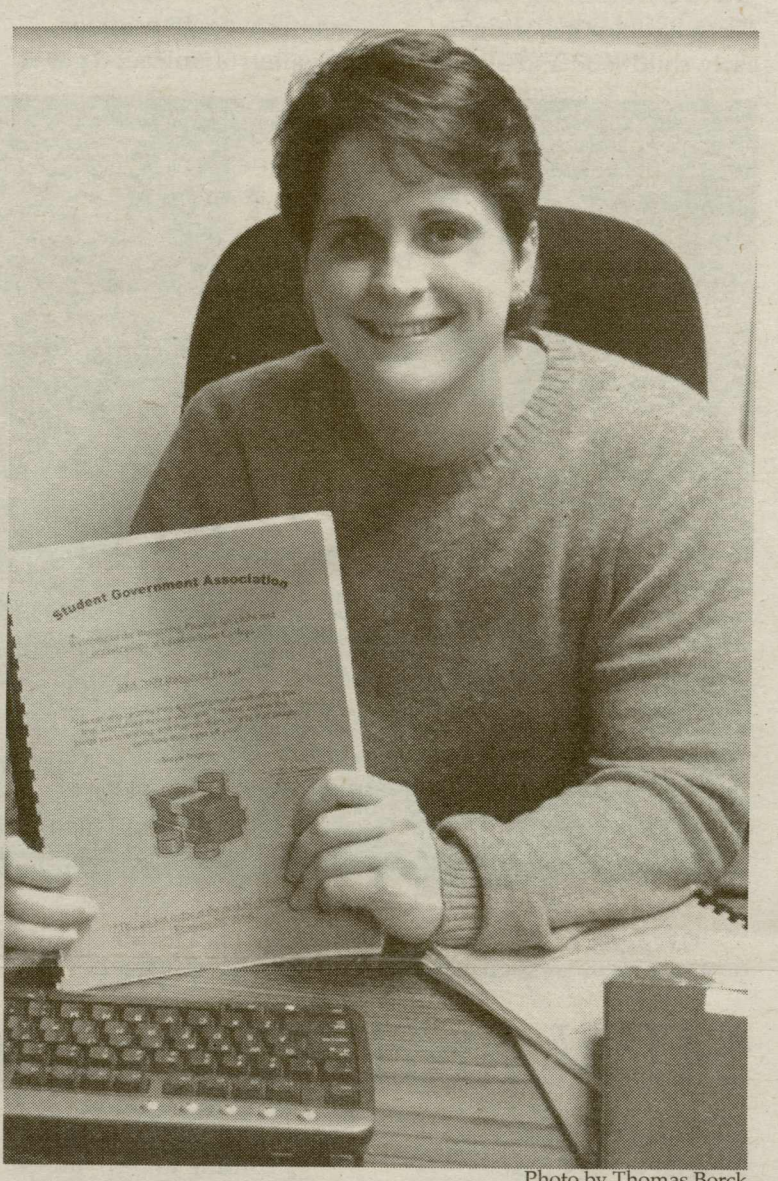

Photo by Thomas Borck

Kate Murphy holds a copy of the club budgets. CAB's budget was cut by almost $20,000 for the 2008-2009 school year. CAB will be forced to make some adjustments next year since they won't have all the necessary funds. The cuts were done in an effort to save other club budgets from being cut too drastically.

New club becomes a hard-hitting success at LSC

The Jiu-Jitsu club has taken the campus by storm after only a couple of months

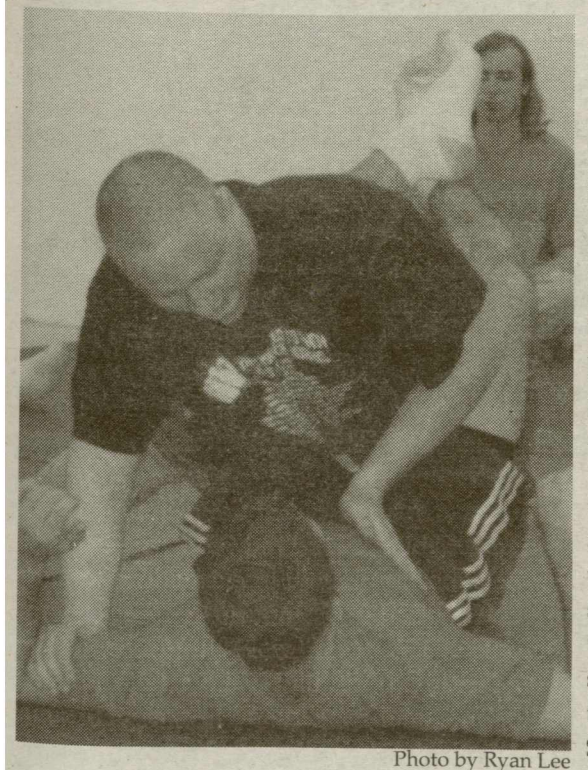

Photo by Ryan Lee

Shank's tries to gain a dominant position over his opponent during a sparring match. The purpose of Jiu-Jitsu is to use joint-locks and choke holds on your opponent.

For additional photos see pg. 6

By Amanda Wozniak
Special to The Critic

LSC's newest club, Jiu-Jitsu, has already gained the interest of 23 members.

The club was formed at the Feb. 6 House meeting where its constitution was passed. With house already underway in the budgeting process for the fall semester, the Jiu-Jitsu club is currently operating without a budget.

LSC student, John Shanks, is the founder of the club as well as an instructor. He decided to start the club when he learned his instructor was moving out of town. "It's a good club to have at the school. There is a lot of interest in this type of sport right now," Shanks said.

Shanks' dedication to this combat sport is displayed during his four day a week practices, lasting one and a half hours each. He is a white belt and has been studying under Adam Laclair who is a purple belt.

Shanks is planning to attend a week long grappling instructor course to improve his skills as an instructor for the club. His instructor at the course will be Roy Harris who is a fourth degree black belt.

He also hopes to hold a women's self-defense seminar in the fall, provided he can get funding. The seminar would be instructed by Roy Dean (student of Harris'), and would be free to LSC students.

Myles Hacking, also a white belt who studied under Laclair is assisting with the instruction of practices. However, he finds it difficult to attend practices during the week due to his work schedule.

Jiu-Jitsu is a martial art/combat sport. The sport's emphasis is on ground-grappling techniques. When sparring a person tries to gain a dominant position using joint-locks and choke holds in order to force their opponent into submission.

Just as in other martial arts, jiu-jitsu uses belt rankings to distinguish the level of technical knowledge a person has as well as their performance in sparring and competitions. The rankings are as follows: white, blue, purple, brown and black. When training recreationally one can expect to train for two years in each level before being promoted to the next belt. A black belt can take anywhere from 6-12 years of training to achieve.

The club meets Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for recreational classes instructed by Shanks. These practices focus on basic techniques needed to move up in belt rankings. Another class is held on Sunday from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. This class focuses on takedown techniques needed for competitive fighting, instructed by both Shanks and Hacking.

Gas prices on the rise with no end in sight

By Jennifer Ingram
Critic Staff

For one single mother/student at LSC, gas prices are an obstacle to be overcome.

"The increase in gasoline prices is ridiculous,"Audrey Perry, a senior majoring in early childhood and elementary education, said. "It makes attending college as a single mother commuter very difficult. It's one more obstacle in getting an education."

It is costing everyone a small fortune to fill up their gas tanks.

In the Northeast Kingdom the average price for one gallon of unleaded gas is between $3.22 and $3.29.

The increases in gasoline prices are hitting many people hard.

"I am not traveling as much as I normally would due to the increase in gasoline prices," Jennifer Lavoie, a nursing major, said.

According to USA Today, "Gasoline prices are predicted to increase another 24 cents a gallon in the next few days, as the USA scrambles to keep up with big jumps in the prices of oil and wholesale gas."

Many students are making sacrifices in order to afford gas and to continue to further their education. "I bought a "new" car that is better on gas. Any money I make goes into savings in order to afford the 45 minute commute five days a week from Bradford to Lyndon State," Perry said.

The warm weather of the summer months is expected to increase the demand, and therefore the price, of gasoline at the pump.

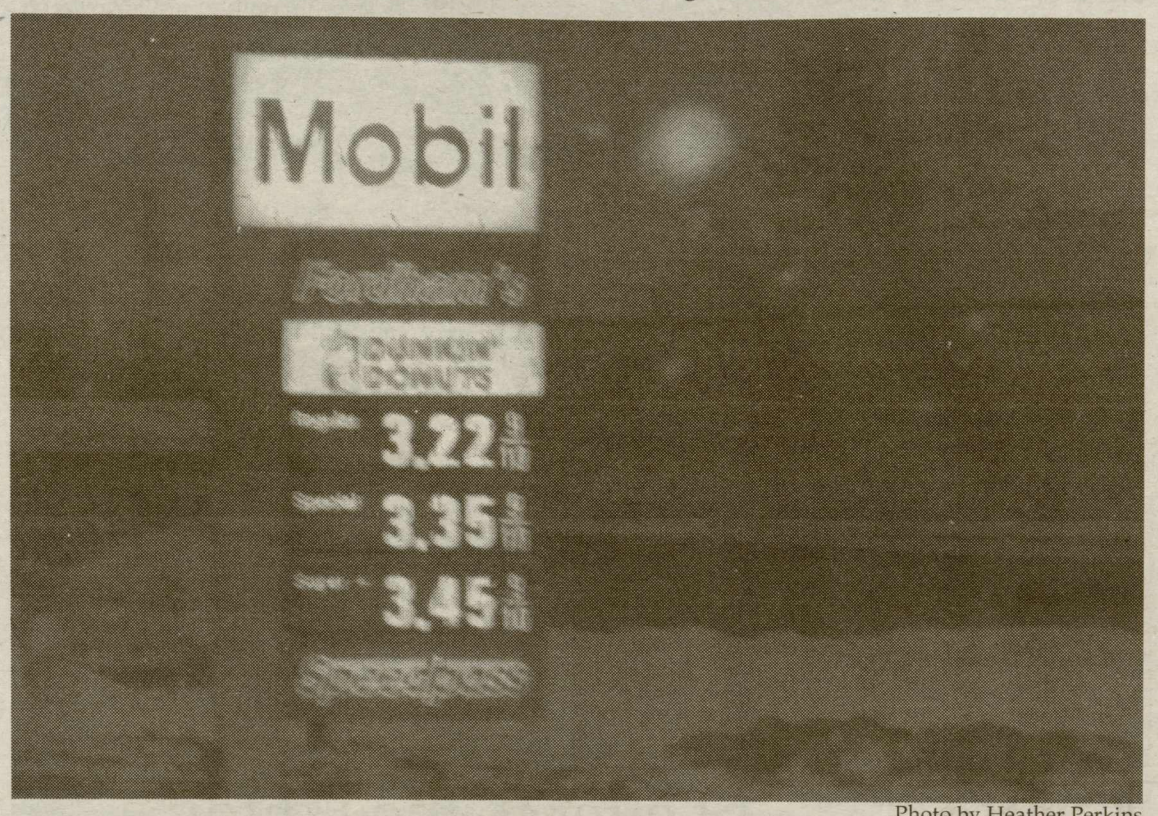

Photo by Heather Perkins

Gas prices at Mobil are about the average price for the Northeast Kingdom. Many commuter students are finding it difficult to pay for the rising fuel costs.

Gas saving tips

from www.abcnews.com.

1. "**Stay in Tune** – Make sure that your vehicle has routine maintenance checks. Vehicle maintenance saves gas. Use the recommended motor oil, replace dirty air filters, keep tires — including the spare — inflated to the proper pressure, and tune up your engine."
2. "**Cool it**—Drive at a consistent speed. By accelerating at a fast speed at every green light, then slamming on the brakes at the last minute, uses more gas. By driving at a consistent speed can save over 30 percent of the gasoline you use."
3. "**Lighten Up** – When traveling keep the luggage off the roof rack and carry as little weight as possible. The extra pounds in the trunk or backseat make the engine work harder and consume more fuel."
4. "**Lose the Lead foot** – By driving the speed limit you can save up to 14 percent of your gas."
5. "**Take a Cruise** — Using cruise control keeps you at a consistent speed rate and can save on fuel."

HPV and STDs infect LSC

By Amanda Wozniak
Special to the Critic

Six LSC women tested positive for HPV (Human Papillomavirus) last year.

That's out of the 48 women that had a Pap test conducted at the LSC Health Services Department.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's research shows that by the age of 50, at least 80 percent of women will have acquired at least one type of HPV. None of which are curable.

"Our numbers are not huge but my suspicion is there are people that are not being tested because they feel safe that they are using birth control," Sue Duckett a R.N. at LSC's Brown House said.

Since the number of students who had a Pap test in the past year is so small, Duckett does not feel that the 12.5 percent of women that tested positive is an accurate sample of the college as a whole.

She added that many students use other facilities such as Planned Parenthood.

HPV is a sexually transmitted infection (STI) that is passed through skin-to-skin contact with a person who has the virus on their skin.

According to the Planned Parenthood website there are 40 types of HPV that are STIs. There are two types of HPV within the 40 types, Low-risk and high-risk.

Low-risk HPV may cause genital warts. High-risk HPV can cause cell changes that may lead to cervical cancer.

There are also many types of HPV that have no harmful affect at all. It's a common virus infecting about 20 million people in the U.S. Between 50 percent and 75 percent of these cases are high-risk.

For the past seven years the nurses at the Brown House have conducted a Colposcopy on any patient with HPV as a routine follow-up. A Colposcopy is a closer examination of the Cervix to evaluate potentially cancerous cells. If potentially cancerous cells are present a biopsy of the cells is performed for verification.

Recently Health Services received a new guideline from Fletcher Allen Health Care stating that if a Pap test detects abnormal cells in females under the age of 21 they should follow-up with another Pap test in 12 months instead of a Colposcopy. This is the average time a woman would wait if the Pap test showed that no abnormal cells were present.

The FDA recently approved Gardasil, an HPV vaccine for girls and women ages 9-26. According to the Gardasil website it protects against 4 types. Types 6 and 11 are reported to have caused 90 percent of genital warts cases. Types 16 and 18 account for 70 percent of cervical cancer cases. There are approximately 15 high-risk types.

Women that get this vaccine "should still use barriers like condoms" because it does not eliminate the chance of infection entirely, Duckett said. The school's insurance will cover the cost of this vaccine for students under the age of 19. Gardasil is a series of three shots.

HPV is not the only STI that affects LSC students. From Fall 2007 to the present 8 people tested positive for Chlamydia. "In this day and age it does not make sense not to use condoms," Duckett said. The Brown House also tests less than 10 students a year for HIV none of which have been positive.

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Holy Sheet

Keep it classy, LSC

By Jordan Royer
Critic Columnist

Any time I mention the word porn I get one of two responses; either I get the glare and a "You're disgusting" or I get the nod and a "Heck ya man."

Well, thanks to a good friend of mine, Ben Clark, we now have a more sophisticated word for porn that just rolls off the tongue and sounds so much more sensual: puern.

That is right, puern is one of the single greatest words I have in my vocabulary and I find myself just shouting it out. It has all of the wonderful feelings I get from watching puern wrapped inside the classiness of it. Try it out, I am sure you will like it. And it is actually a word, just check urbandictionary.com.

Now that I have cleaned up my language and put a twist of class on things, I want to introduce people to the world of penis tricks. Sounds crazy, I know, but there is such a game and I have played it.

The world has Sutton, Vt. resident Luis Guzman to thank for bringing penis tricks to the forefront in his hilarious comedy Waiting. Guzman, like in most of his movies, is not the star but it is his constant efforts throughout the film to flash his genitalia at people that makes him a legend in my book.

Guzman and the rest of the cast introduce amateurs such as me to tricks such as the bat wing, Abe Lincoln and probably my all-time favorite, the goat. I know what you are thinking, this kid is crazy, but although a flaccid penis may ordinarily not be appealing, if you can twist and turn your man-goods into crazy little animals or circus-like attractions, you might just lighten the mood at any occasion.

I like to think I am moving past amateur status when it comes to tricks like the goat and the man-gina but there are still others, far more creative, that I have either not been able to master or maybe I just don't know about them. I will say this, however, be smart when you try penis tricks. First off, you don't want to damage your goods and secondly, there is a time and a place for such events.

Position of the Week- The Western Flamingo

Party Appetizers

By Gwen Cook
Critic Columnist

College parties aren't exactly known for their smorgasbord of appetizers. Just trust me on this when I say that they usually consist of mostly drink and no food.

This is completely understandable when you consider what college parties are actually for. Most students typically aren't rolling in the money either.

So in this column I wanted to share some good party appetizers that will appeal to your guests without robbing you blind.

Cheese Nachos

1 container of salsa

1 16 ounce container of sour cream

1 bag of shredded cheese

1 bag of tortilla chips

Combine the salsa and sour cream in a medium container. Sprinkle shredded cheese over the top.

Chicken Nuggets with Dipping Sauce

1 package of microwavable chicken nuggets (precooked)

1 cup honey

½ cup Dijon mustard

Cook chicken in microwave according to directions on the package. Combine honey and mustard in a small bowl.

Fruit Platter with Chocolate Dipping Sauce

1 container of strawberries

2-3 apples

1 small bag of grapes

1 bundle of bananas

1 container of microwavable chocolate dip

Arrange strawberries, cored and slices apples, grapes, and bananas on a tray. Heat the chocolate dip in the microwave according to the directions on the package.

Meat Roll-ups

1 container of sliced chipped beef

1 package of cream cheese

Spread cream cheese over slice of chipped beef. Roll up. Repeat procedure until the jar is empty and the cream cheese runs out.

Student Government Association

Constitution Ratification

to vote against ratifying the SGA constitiution because I hate democracy

But if you insist, tables will be set up around the LSC campus for online voting

Monday March 24 - FridayMarch 28

Critic Online

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www.lyndonstate.edu/critic

Letter to the Editor: Don't cut CAB's budget

Dear Editor,

In response to the article titled "House rep submits plan to fix budget crunch" written by Catherine Story in last weeks edition of The Critic, I would like to state that cutting the Campus Activities Board's budget is a bad idea.

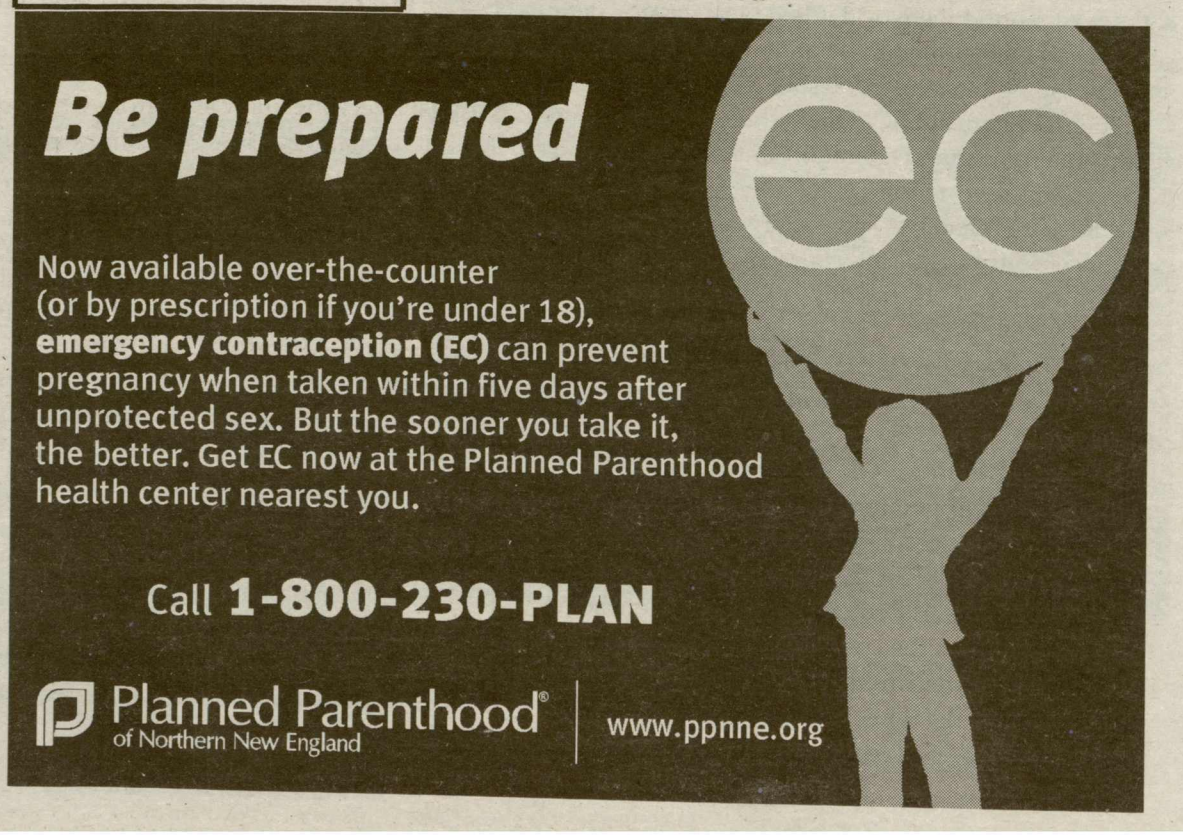
The student activity fee provides the money that the student government divides among the clubs and organizations.

If the money provided by the student activity fee is used, then it should be used by an organization that benefits the most students.

CAB benefits the most students because they bring entertainment to the school and provide students and faculty opportunities to visit cities outside of Vermont, such as Montreal, Boston, and New York City.

Since CAB benefits every student on the Lyndon State College campus, then CAB should get the most funding.

-Nadine Grimley



Dear John: *Why I hate the color red*

By Riché Pinchingpenny
Critic Columnist

When I first moved out of my ex's apartment, and into the St. Johnsbury shoe-box that I call my home, the tiny space echoed in its emptiness. There was nothing attractive about it. Inside, I had barely enough room to turn around, never mind cook a decent meal; a desk, and an overstuffed chair were the only pieces of furniture that I brought with me; and the walls were peeling reminders of someone else's life. Outside isn't any better. I get to stare at the backside of a gas station, an overflowing dumpster, and a 12-hour-a-day curb-side drunk with the name, Chance (go figure).

"You need to surround yourself with red," my friend Leah insists. "Red is seductive." She should know. She's had five "serious" relationships in the last three months, and that's not including the guy she picked up on the 9pm bus to Boston. He was her soul mate; she's sure of that. But his ticket was only one way, and well, you know how tight money is. She had to love him while she could, and then make the best of his memory. Which I'm sure is what she's doing every time I hear her scream, "Oh g-d ….yesssss!" from my shower (she says the water pressure is better than the shower at her place.) She always appears nearly an hour later, flushed, and ready to paint the town red.

But red makes my skin look sallow, like a dying hooker on *Guiding Light*. I never wear it, or decorate with it. But Leah insisted on spicing up the house with thick red curtains in the belief that they'd also improve the view. The curtains were more than enough red for my taste. I ignored her suggestion to add red pillows, rugs, and a comforter. I tried to cheer the place up with yellow paint, a screaming in-your-face yellow that dared me to be anything but hopeful. It wasn't working.

"You need to join something. Why don't you try belly dancing?" Leah cooed, shaking her hips in patterns that would make even Shakira blush. I tried to picture myself swaying my hips and rolling my arms seductively, but I have the co-ordination of a blind-folded monkey. It was a fact: luck's a bitch.

After spending two months watching Chance pile his empty bottles behind the cedar bush, and listening to Leah "prep" for her dates, I decided I was tired of my mental monologue. Looking around, I noticed that the room had taken on the same hues as the two-day old pepperoni pizza, still in the open box on the counter, bought at Leah's insistence that the pizza delivery guy might show me a good time. But the delivery guy was a 6 ft. tall, 17 year-old that dressed Goth, but talked like he was Mormon. This is neither damning, nor at this moment, encouraging. What I wanted wasn't a man, but a life.

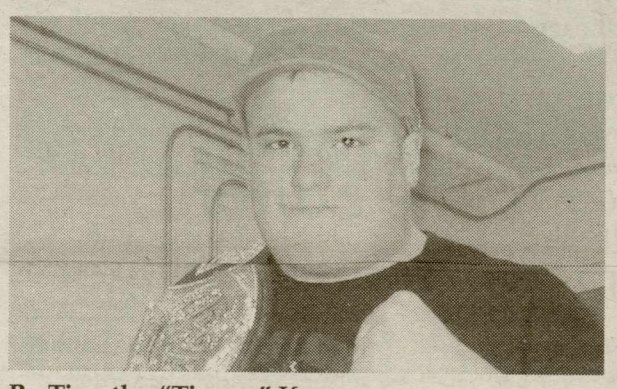
At Leah's insistence to do anything but mope, I went out. But I didn't go grab a beer at the sports bar, or bury my face in popcorn at the theatre. I just walked. That's it. I crossed the Portland Street bridge and headed uptown. I walked past the churches and the neat and orderly houses on Main Street. I watched a white-haired man hurry towards a red car. An irritated woman was honking the horn. He climbed in and she drove away. I imagined her seething through her red lips, "I gave up Broadway to spend my life waiting on *you*?" He'd say nothing.

I walked on. There wasn't much to do in this desolate town on a Friday night. I browsed the magazines in the mom-and-pop store, The Convenient One, but they were full of love, sex, and relationships. I bought a newspaper and a Coke instead. The lady at the counter handed me a daffodil with my change. "I've been selling them all day, but this one's going by. If you want it, take it. Enjoy it while it still has some color left to it." I thanked her and walked home.

The neighborhood was quiet when I got back. Even Chance wasn't slumped on his curb. I put the daffodil on the nightstand, and then I took the red curtains down. I could almost hear Leah moaning, "Fuck, hun. Why'd ya go and do that?" But it looks brighter this way.

The rise and fading out of the LSWF

Timmy Kemp gets the scoop on LSC's former backyard wrestling club



By Timothy "Timmy" Kemp
Critic Columnist

The people that are not familiar with professional wrestling will probably associate the entire industry with World Wrestling Entertainment. Although the WWE is the major leagues of sports-entertainment, there are other alternatives that you can check out. For instance, Total Nonstop Action Wrestling, (TNA), is based in Orlando, Florida and has their television shows every Thursday night on Spike TV. Another smaller promotion called Ring of Honor, (ROH), does not have a TV deal yet, but runs pay-per-views each month with extraordinary talent. If you are not really interested in mainstream wrestling, I would suggest watching smaller local independent promotions. There are thousands of them all around the world, filled with passionate individuals trying to make a name for themselves in the wrestling business. One such promotion became a club right here at LSC. This is the story of the Lyndon State Wrestling Federation, entertaining fans in the Northeast Kingdom.

Recently I had the opportunity to get the comments of Kyle Griggs, a former LSC student who was there during the heyday of the LSWF:

Kemp: Please describe what is the LSWF and how did it come about here at Lyndon State College?

Griggs: LSWF or Lyndon State Wrestling Federation was a wrestling organization that put on wrestling shows once a month at the college; it was made up primarily of LSC students, though there were some other people from the community involved. The LSWF was the brainchild of John Lacroix, a first year student at the time. He was the one who went the through the "political channels" to get LSWF instated as a club.

Kemp: Was there any trouble in getting the organization approved by the CAB committee?

Griggs: As far as I know, no, there was no issue getting it approved, however after several events, LSWF caught a lot of flak about damage to the basketball court as well as the tumbling mats, and we had to "tone down" some of the hardcore matches, for the damage done to the gym as well as ourselves.

Kemp: Did you put on shows for the rest of the school? If so, was it a popular attraction, and what types of matches were involved?

Griggs: Yes, we put on three shows total, Spanning from December 1999- March 2000, there were singles matches, 2 out of 3 fall matches, tag team matches, wrestling title tournament matches, and our fan's favorite: Hardcore. The first show had about 80 people, and by the end we had probably about 150-175.

Kemp: Did the wrestlers need any type of training to prevent serious injuries?

Griggs: Everyone knew stuff from what we saw on TV, but to be honest, we didn't know proper techniques to fall properly, to pick up and drop people properly, and a lot of the guys were limited in their abilities and what they could do. Honestly, other than one concussion and a few bumps and bruises, everyone was lucky that they got out injury-free.

Kemp: Were there any type of characters or storylines, or was it just about having good matches? Was the entertainment aspect there as well as the sporting aspect?

Griggs: There were multiple characters for some people, but the main eventers were: Test Tickle, who would come to the ring wearing a swimming cap, blue shirt, jean shorts and a jock strap on the outside of his shorts, and the only thing he said was "Wear Condoms."

The Studley Boyz, which was a total knockoff of the WWE's Dudley Boyz, used the 3D and their interviews were highlights of the show. Grave Tavern was a gothic gladiator that started as a fan at the shows, but became an in-ring performer with us shortly after, was also quite popular with the fans. Big King was a disgruntled Burger King employee whose finishing move was dubbed "The Whopper". Falcon and Harley D were a tag team called The Rebels. Falcon was a deliberate rip-off of ECW's Raven character and Harley D, as the name would suggest, was a biking baddass. One storyline that sticks out in my mind was when The Rebels broke up in the second show. Falcon "injured" his arm in the match and because of that, they lost the tag titles. After the match Harley D proceeded to attack Falcon's arm more, effectively ending their partnership. We tried to entertain people the best we knew, the matches were hard to watch, because our move sets were limited at best.

Kemp: Is the LSWF still around today, and if not, what was the downfall of the organization? Do you see it ever being resurrected in the future?

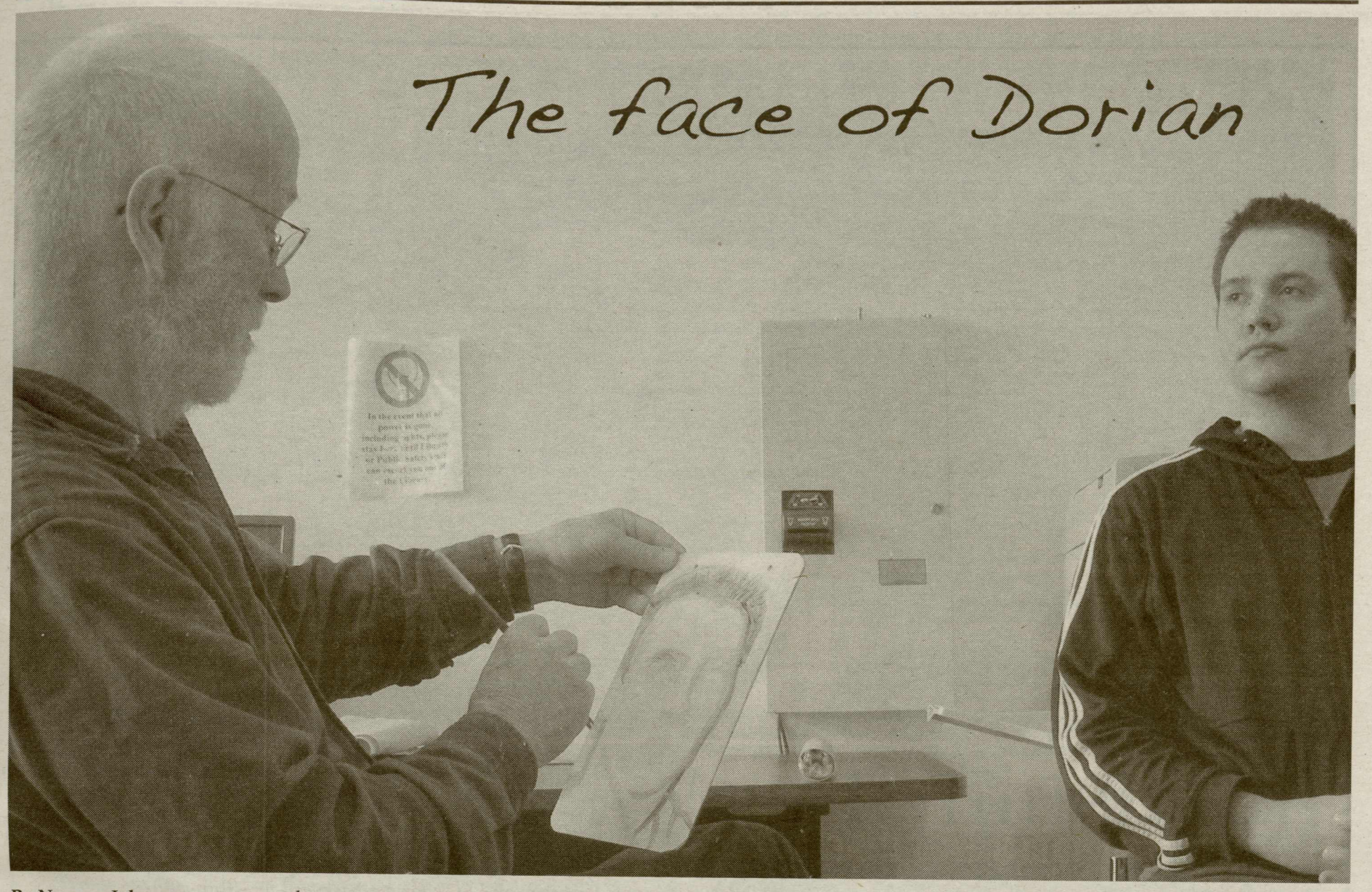
Griggs: The Lyndon State Wrestling Federation only lasted until March of 2000, due to problems amongst its members stemming from being a college club and us having a very small fan base. People had egos about what goes on behind the scenes, which is ridiculous in retrospect. Will it be resurrected? That's up to the current students, if they want to start that again, go for it!

Next Week's Column – A continuation of the Lyndon State Wrestling Federation; I will be getting the thoughts of a few more LSWF alumni.

A New Feature: Each week I will be selecting the best match during the week, including WWE Raw, Smackdown, ECW and TNA Impact!

Match of the Week: Tuesday's ECW on Sci-Fi saw a tremendous six-man tag team match featuring CM Punk, Jesse and Festus vs. Shelton Benjamin, John Morrison and The Miz. This was a fast-paced, high impact match.

The face of Dorian



By Norman Johnson
Special to the Critic

On a bright day last week, retired LSC art professor, Dorian McGowan sat down in the sun-splashed college library to paint junior Joey Stewart's portrait.

"I've always done portraits of people because I like people," said Dorian, as he poured a spot of dark acrylic paint onto a white porcelain pan, dabbed a flat brush through it and in broad sweeping strokes outlined Stewart's face, nose, and mouth on a white panel. Rinsing the brush in a small glass of water, he washed the brushstrokes into a blur. As he painted he talked.

Dorian, as he is generally known, came from North Fairfax, Vt. "Mostly Holstein cows," he said. "My father drove me every day to Catholic school in St. Albans. All the art was very controlled. The nuns considered art a sin." But several sisters gave art lessons for 75 cents a lesson. They used still-lives, plaster hands, busts of Caesar and such but with such a passion for art, Dorian didn't care. "One nun brought in a sauce pan, 'Here draw this,' she said. I was so excited," Dorian said.

As he brushed flesh tones into the portrait, he continued. "I was given $1 for lunch everyday." Dorian said. Every day he'd have an art lesson for 75 cents then go into the village and buy crackers with what was left. He did this from second grade to his senior year. Drawing for Dorian was as important as eating.

"I got a scholarship to go to St. Michael's." Dorian said. "But I didn't want to be a priest. I wrote to Norman Rockwell out of the blue and

"I'm a cheapskate," said Dorian McGowan.

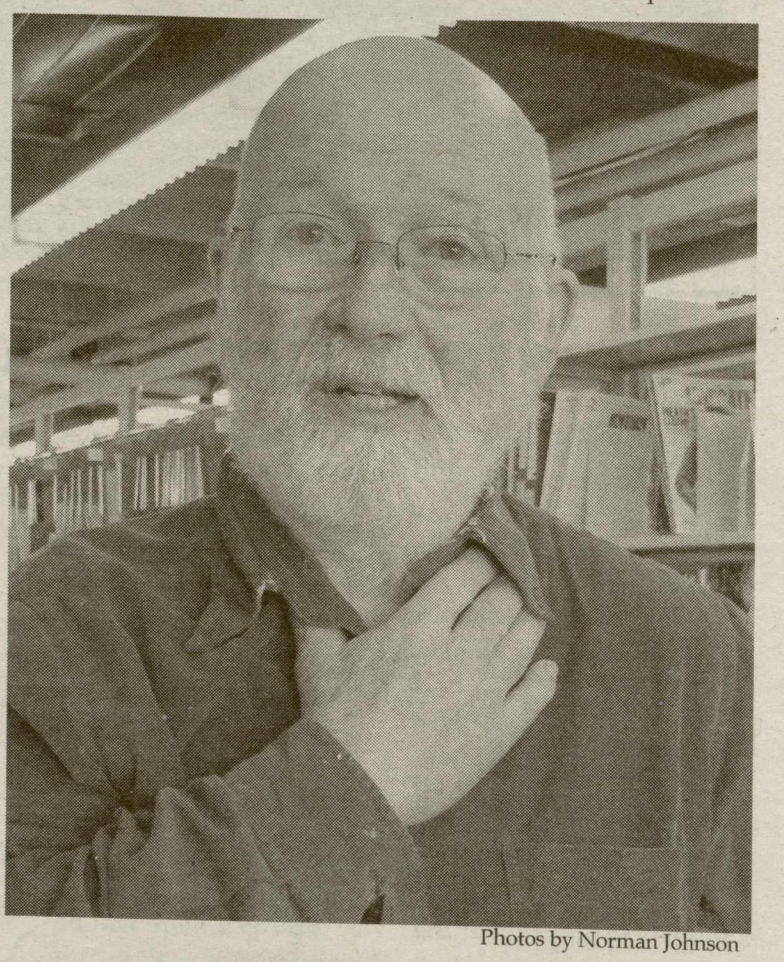
he wrote back. It was a very sweet letter," Dorian said. Rockwell encouraged him to look beyond Vermont and he wrote to the well known art college, Pratt in N.Y.

"It was pretty intimidating. Brooklyn was terrifying." Dorian said. He took the entrance test and was accepted. "Because the nuns were teaching academic drawing. Nobody was doing it in those days. Everyone else was doing Jackson Pollack like stuff, here I was doing figure drawings." At Pratt most of the students majored in industrial design or fashion, Doran was dedicated to teaching.

Dorian extensively uses "found" materials in his artwork. He transforms detergent bottles, machine parts, and wood scraps into portraits, scenery, and mythical gods. He knits wool into arms, legs, and other forms. He beats tin can tops into domes, works worn out bicycle parts into sunbursts of gears, and loops of chain become hair or kinetic sculpture. Dorian doesn't brag about being a recycler in its popular form, however. "I'm a cheapskate." He says matter-of-factly. "I hate spending a lot of money on supplies. I was the cheapest faculty member on campus."

The story goes: a copy machine was malfunctioning in the art building one week; printing bar-code-like stripes down each page of paper. Dorian and another artist rearranged the copier mistakes into birch bark designs and had an exhibit. "What Happens when Faculty Members Play Together." They called it.

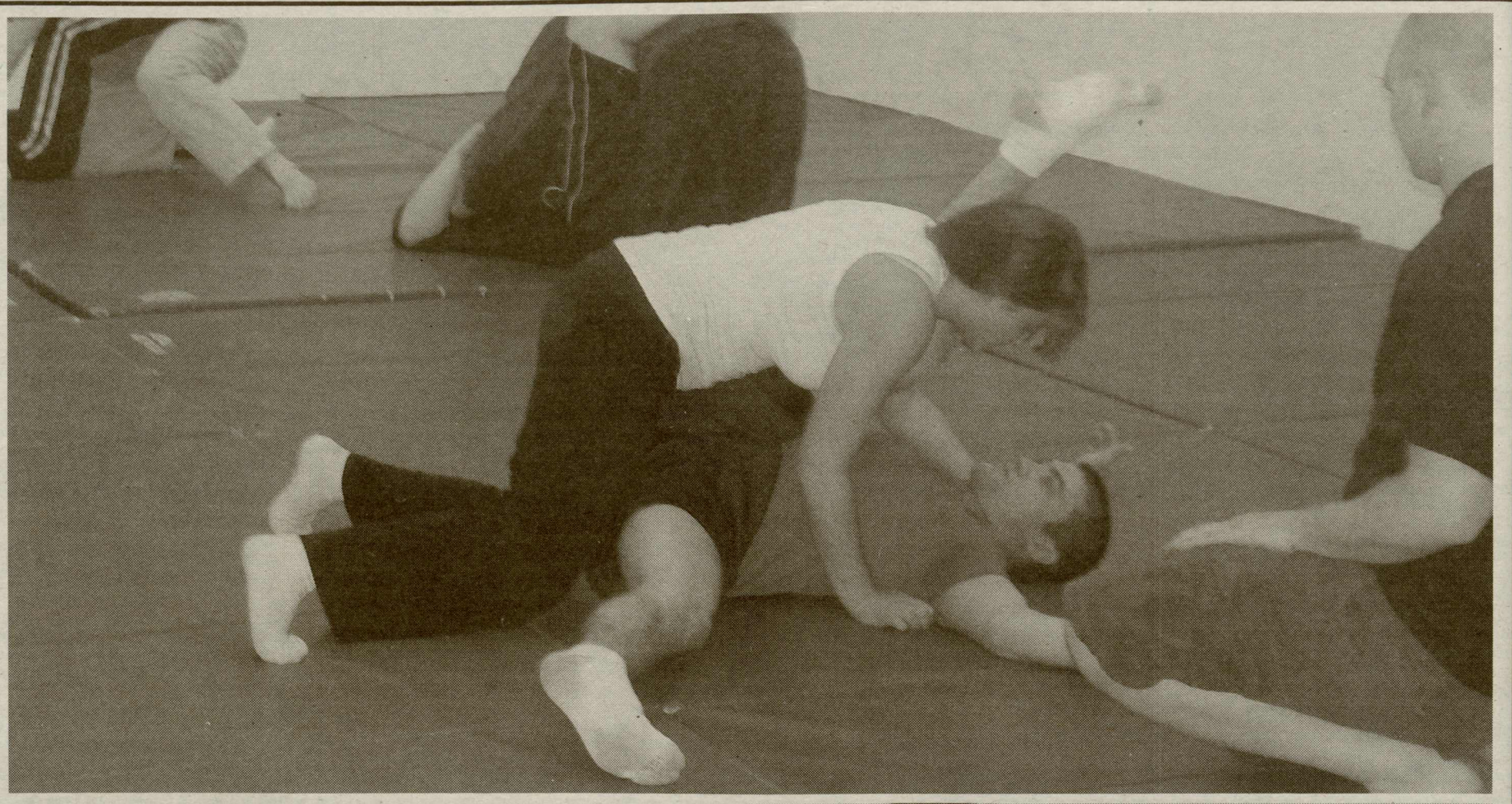
Dorian came to Lyndon State College in 1959 and taught until two years ago. "I liked our type of student," he said. "Some of the best were from recreation, excited about what they were doing. You don't get that from art students." With finishing strokes of his brush he added: "Kids should be allowed to express themselves. Who are we to silence other people's songs. Right?" Dorian said as he washed in a blue background to Stewart's finished portrait.



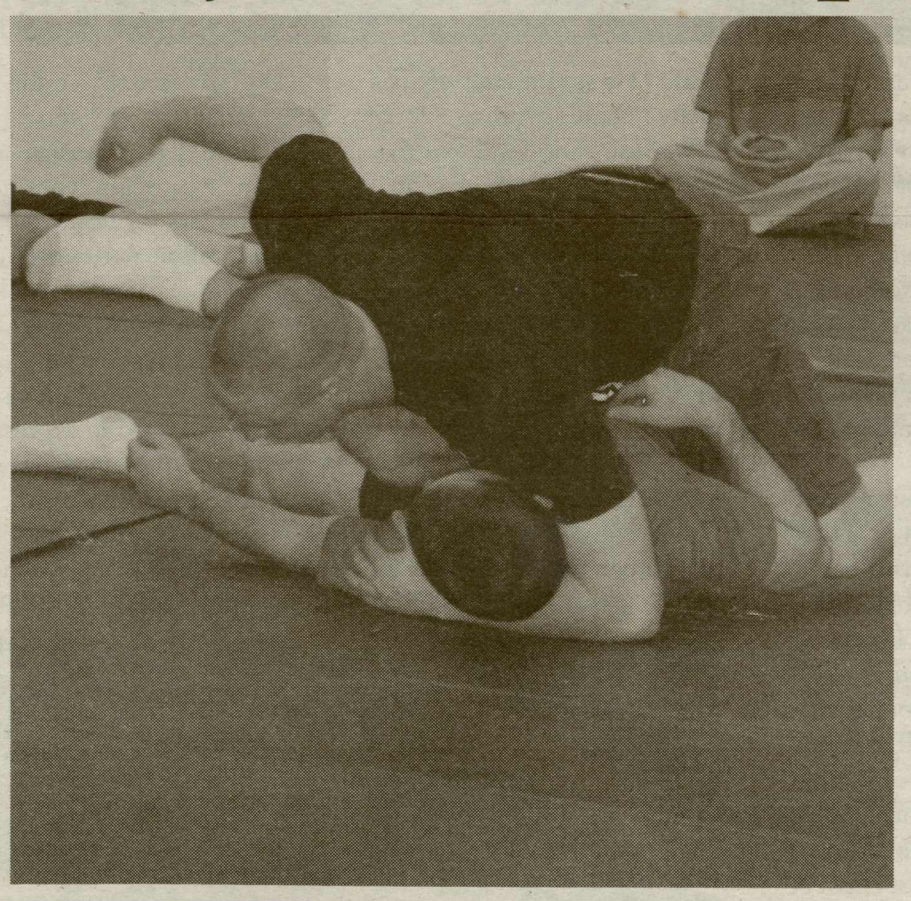
Photos by Norman Johnson

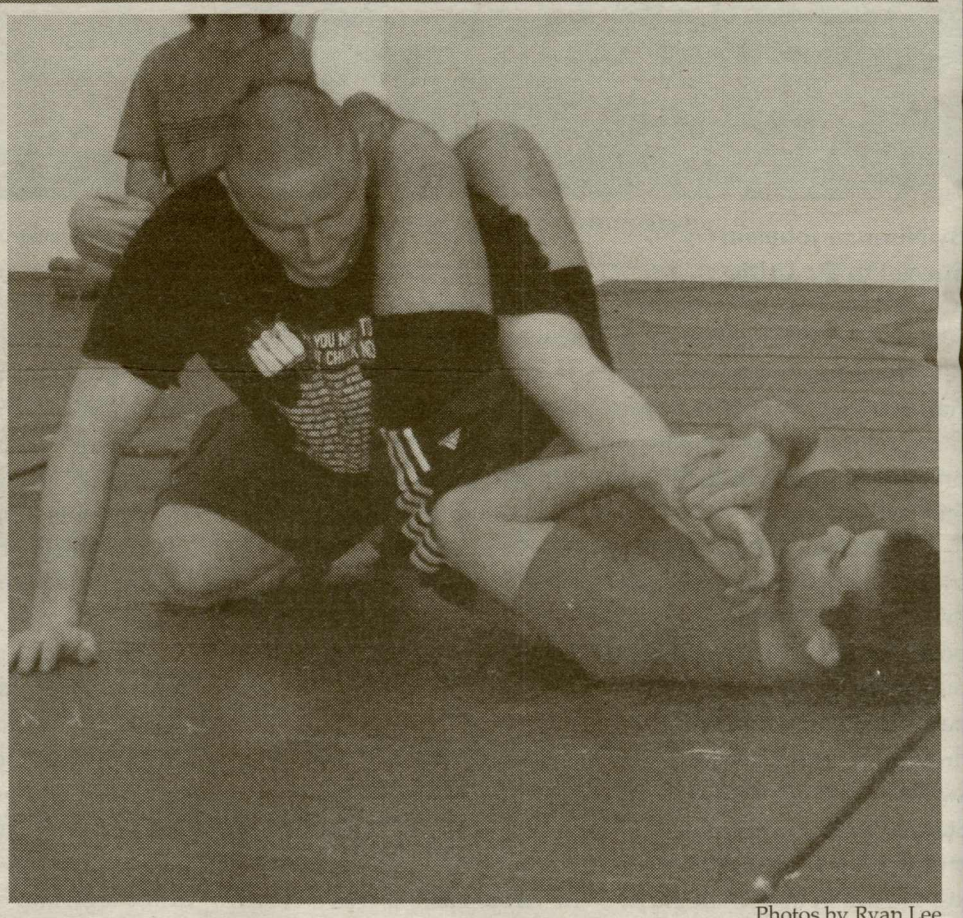
Top, left to right: Dorian McGowan, retired LSC art professor, and Joey Stewart, LSC Junior.

Bottom, left to right: Dorian's pianting of Joey Stewart, and Dorian McGowan.



Jiu-jitsuin' it up





Photos by Ryan Lee

Top: Amanda Bloom grapples with her opponent as Shanks observes her technique

Bottom: Zach Harwood spars with John Shanks during one of their practices.

Decision time is coming up, choose wisely

By Jennifer Ingram
Critic Staff

At the start of April, elections will be taking place for new representation for the Student Government Association (SGA).

With new representation on the board, the SGA can move forward and put to rest past issues that the SGA has had.

The SGA's main responsibility is to ensure that the clubs have adequate amounts of money, and that the student body is represented when deciding the actions that the school takes.

"The committees that are sat on by the SGA help things get done for the students. We as students pay tuition, and we the student pay activities fees," Stephan Gingras, 4th year senator, said.

"The tuition pays the professors and the administration. Student activity fees that we as students pay should be spent on the students' wishes,"Gingras said.

In April there will be many positions that students can run for.

There will be four executive board positions and 19 elected representative positions.

"I hope to see an active student body running for the executive board and elected representations", Jon Maciel, SGA president, said.

"We need people who are motivated and dedicated to making the campus a better place as a whole for everybody that goes and works at LSC."

In order to hold a seat on the SGA, candidates must meet certain requirements.

There are different requirements for the executive board and for the elected Senate representatives.

Executive Board
For the executive board, students must carry a 2.5 GPA.

President - Requires one year of SGA experience.

Vice President - Requires one spring semester of SGA experience.

Treasurer - Requires approval from the SGA and Business Department.

Secretary - Requires one semester of SGA experience.

Elected Representatives (Senators)

To be appointed and be an elected representative, you must carry at least a 2.0 GPA.

Three Representatives for each LSC year.
Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior

Two Non-Traditional Representatives.

Two Commuter Representatives.

"There's nothing funnier than fish playing baseball. Ignore the questions brought up on whether or not this is dynamically possible. Such sports can be enjoyed on any venue. Also: visible sweat underwater." -Overlord of Fun, Eric Downing

Exciting Wordfind!

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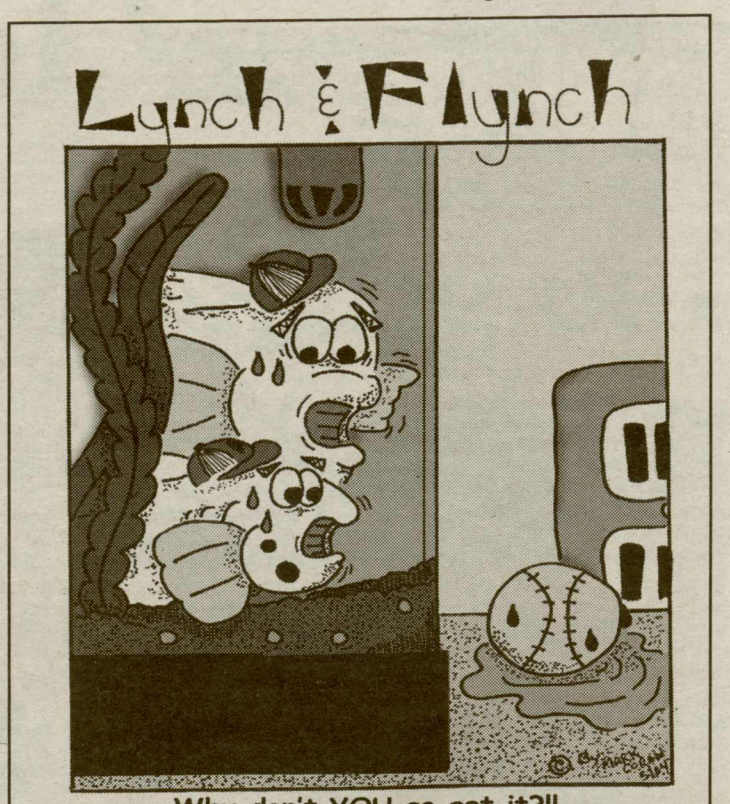
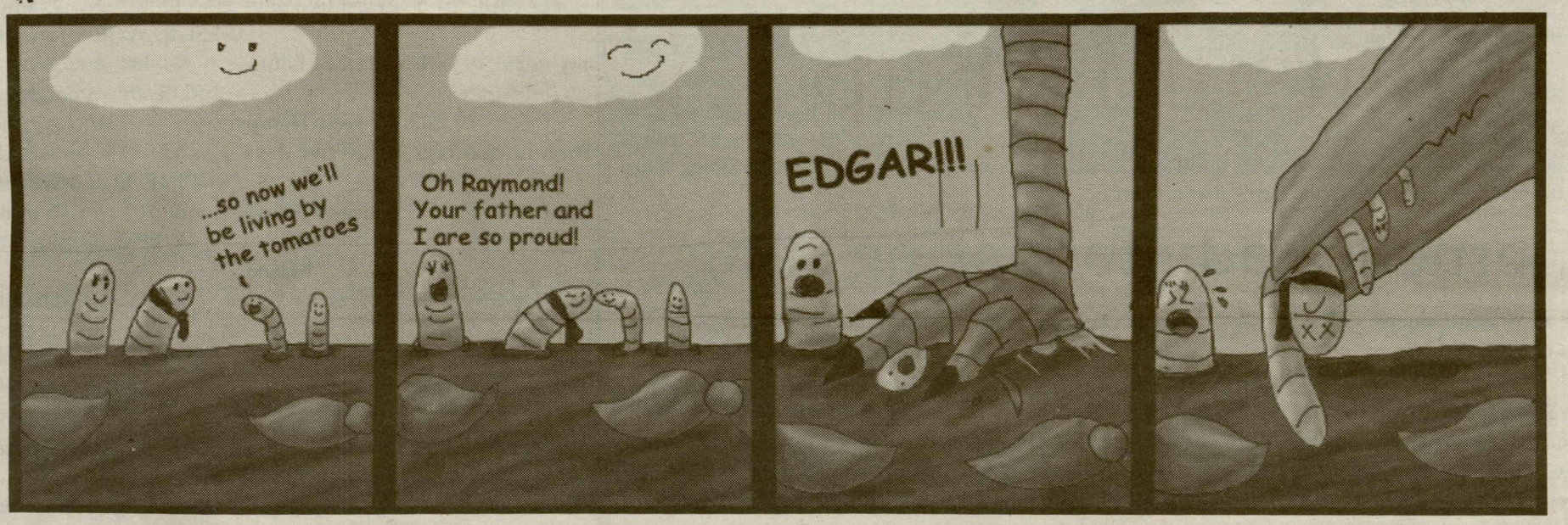
In this puzzle you find words beyond your wildest dreams:
exotic intrigue befuddlement disorder pandemonium fantasy
ecstasy wonder enigmatic adrenaline emphasis interest
mystery embellish surreal illusion adventure

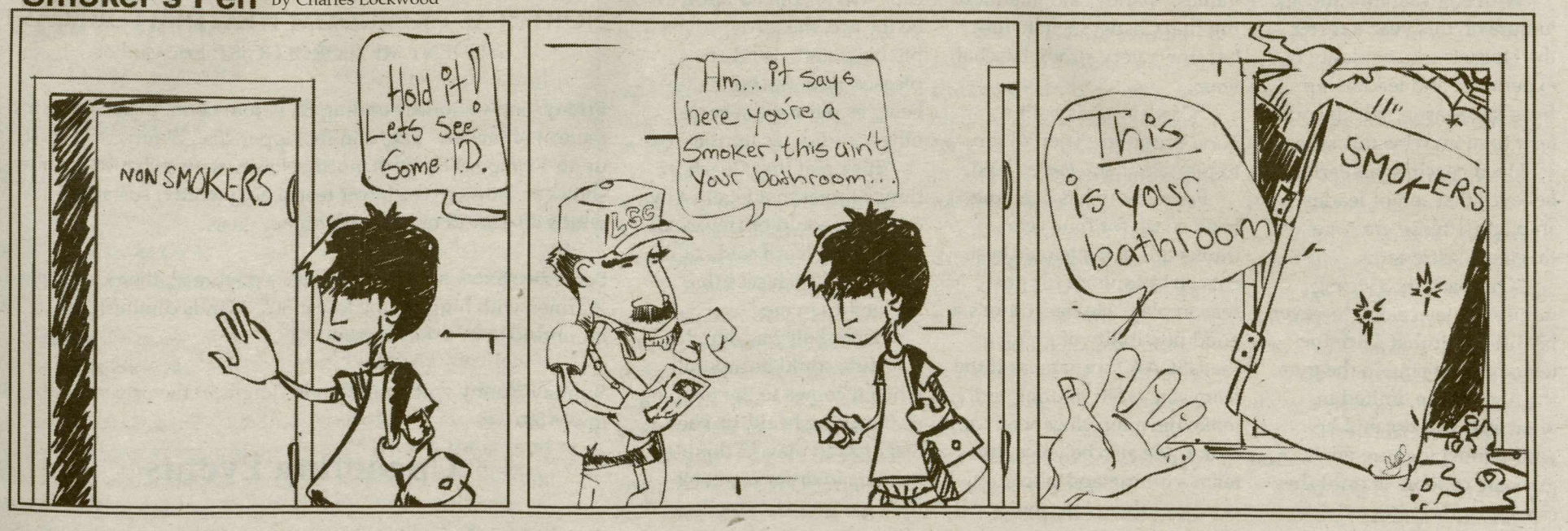


"Lynch and Flynch" by Mark Coran

Animal Behavior By Kathy Harrington



Smoker's Pen By Charles Lockwood



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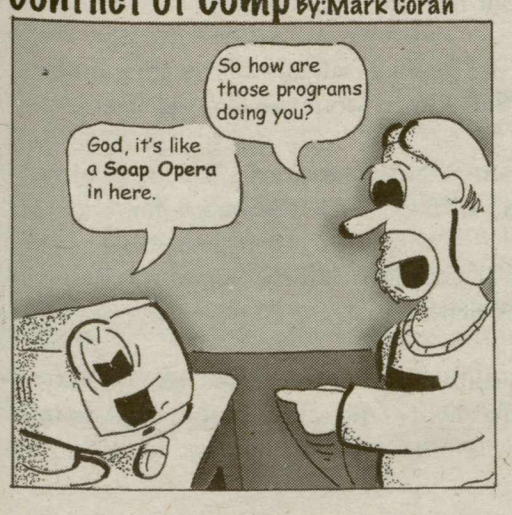

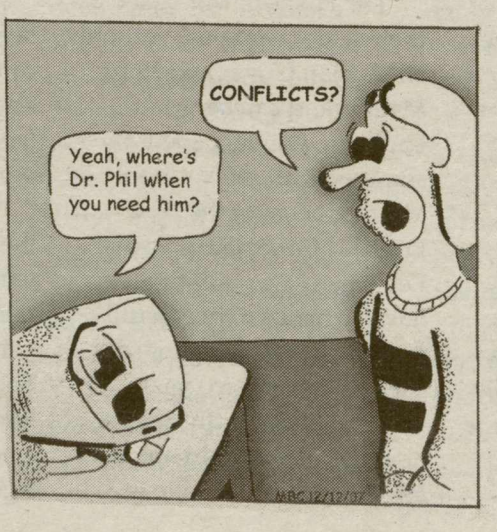

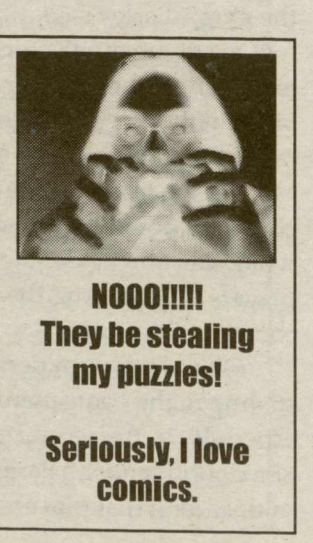

NOOO!!!!! They be stealing my puzzles!

Seriously, I love comics.

Ruggers prepare for silver anniversary of Snow Bowl

Photo by Nate Champagne
Winger Mark Evans (11) tackles Arnold during practice. The rugby team is hosting their 25th annual Snow Bowl tournament on Saturday, which will feature six men's teams and five women's teams, including both of Lyndon's teams, as well as the men's alumni team.

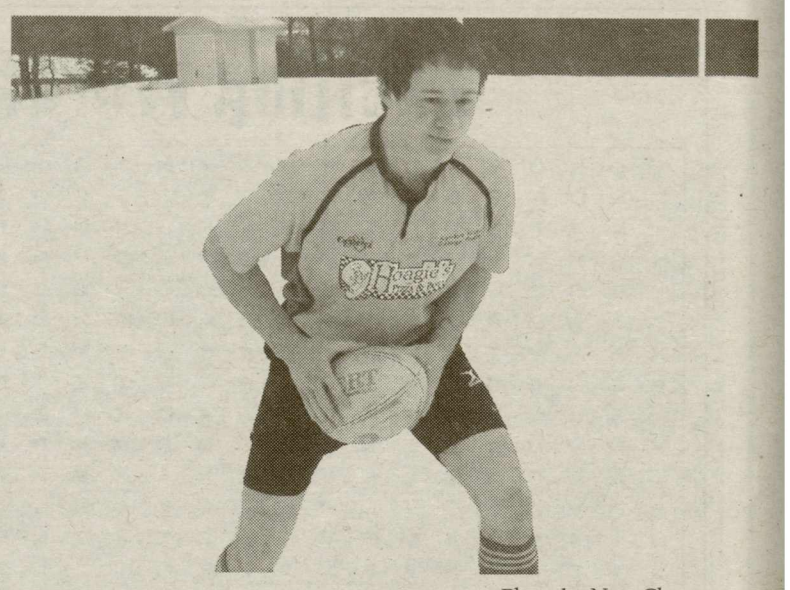

Photo by Nate Champagne
Scrumhalf Brian Arnold of the Lyndon State Rugby Club at practice. The rugby team will be hosting their 25th annual Snow Bowl this weekend. Kickoff is scheduled for 11 o'clock Saturday morning.

Hornets ready for spring sting

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

Fresh off their trip to Florida over winter break, the LSC baseball team is busy preparing for the season as they wait for the snow to be cleared off the field.

With eight seniors and six juniors on this year's roster, the Hornets return plenty of experience and leadership from last season, which could lead to more wins this season.

Head coach Ryan Farley believes that senior leadership and offense are some of this team's strengths.

"Our bats are a strong point," Farley said. However, he did admit that since the team is practicing in the gym, the players are limited in what they can do, and he won't know for sure what guys are capable of until they can start practicing outside.

"Everyone looks good in the gym," Farley said.

One of the pitfalls for the team is how the weather combines with their schedule to make for some long days. Most of the team's game days consist of doubleheaders, which can affect how the players think during the course of the games.

"One of our weaknesses is staying in the game mentally, especially in the second game of a doubleheader," Farley said, adding that players sometimes make poor decisions at the plate in those situations.

Farley has very high praise for the teams that the Hornets will play this season. He says that there are no easy wins on the schedule.

"There are no gimme games," Farley said, mentioning that Castleton State has become a very strong baseball team.

"Castleton has built a good program. They're fun to play against," Farley said.

Farley, who has been the head coach for four years, thinks this is the team's best chance to contend for postseason play. He says there's a good possibility of going to the USCAA tournament if the team can avoid injuries and make the plays they need to make. He also believes the team's hitting and pitching can carry them into the postseason.

The Hornets will be led by their senior captains, outfielders Adrian Guyer and Rob Malloy, and catcher Matt Lapham. Lapham spent the summer with the Vermont Mountaineers of the New England Collegiate Baseball League. Guyer will finally have a chance to play a full season after battling injuries each of the last two years.

"Hopefully I can stay healthy," Guyer said about his final season of college baseball. "I had to do a lot more to prepare myself because of injuries." Guyer hasn't played a full season since his sophomore year due to a hamstring injury last year and shoulder surgery the year before that.

Junior lefthander Matt Picard will be looked upon to be the ace, the leader of the pitching staff. While he's pleased with the honor, he believes there are several other candidates for that role.

"It's great that Coach thinks I'm at that level. Any one of us could be the ace of the staff," Picard said. "I'm glad that Coach sees that leadership in me."

Picard believes that the schedule could be a pitfall when it comes to the pitching staff staying healthy. The team has to play 13 doubleheaders in order to get all their games in before the end of the season in May.

"We just need to stay healthy, pitch well, and take care of our arms," Picard said. "And hopefully our offense will give us some support."

The Hornets will open their season this weekend with a doubleheader at Massachusetts Maritime Academy in Buzzards Bay, Mass. Their home opener will be on April 15, a doubleheader against Daniel Webster College.

LSC Ski & Board Report

Resort	Recent Snow	Base	Open
	Vermont		
Burke Mtn.	5" in last two days	12-40" LSGR/WGR	21 trails, four lifts
Jay Peak	8" in last 24 hours	24-48" PDR/PP	76 trails, eight lifts
	New Hampshire		
Bretton Woods	5" in last two days	55-65" PP/PDR	98 trails, five lifts
Attitash	3" in last two days	30-70" WPP	75 trails, six lifts
	Maine		
Sunday River	2-4" in last two days	40-62" LSGR	108 trails, 12 lifts
Sugarloaf	5" in last two days	30-60" PP/LSGR	107 trails, 10 lifts

Notes: PP: Packed powder. PDR: Powder. LSGR: Loose granular. WGR: Wet granular. WPP: Wet packed powder. **Source:** snocountry.com. Conditions as of Thursday night. For more information about ticket prices and the latest snow conditions, please call your mountain of choice or visit its website.

NORTHEAST KINGDOM WEATHER FORECAST

STUDENT METEOROLOGIST: Eric Guillot

Friday: Snow showers ending off before noon, then cloudy for the rest of the day. Highs in the upper 20s. Windy, with gusts up to 40 m.p.h. Tonight, mostly cloudy with a chance of snow showers. Lows in the lower teens. Still windy; sustained winds around 25 m.p.h. with higher gusts.

Saturday: Snow showers ending by daybreak, then clearing. Warmer, with highs in the lower 30s. Winds diminish to around 15 m.p.h. Lows around 10.

Sunday: Sunny with light winds. Highs in the upper 20s to lower 30s.

Upcoming Events

Baseball: 4/15, doubleheader vs. Daniel Webster College, 2 p.m.; 4/18 vs Vermont Tech., 3:30 p.m.

Softball: (all games are doubleheaders) 4/10 vs. Plymouth State, 3:30 p.m.; 4/12 vs. Green Mountain College, 2 p.m.

Lacrosse: 4/6 vs. Maine Maritime Academy, 1 p.m.; 4/14 vs. Johnson State, 4 p.m.; 4/15 vs. Castleton State, 4 p.m.

Men's Tennis: 3/30 vs. Castleton State (@ Sugarbush Resort), 1 p.m.; 4/5 vs. Johnson State, 1 p.m.

Notes: Baseball and softball games held at the Skip Pound Fields. Tennis matches held at the courts next to the Alumni House unless otherwise noted. Game times and locations subject to change.

THE CRITIC

Serving the student voice of Lyndon State College

One copy free, extras 50 cents each

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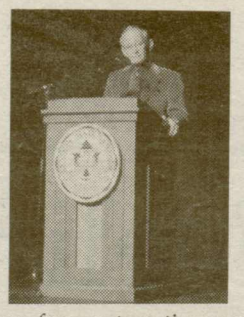


Ted Kooser, former two-time poet laureate, paid a visit to campus yesterday pg.5

Dean of the Mailroom signing out

Catherine Story
Business Manager

Harry Swett takes pride in having a good attitude.

"Thanks for paying my bills," said Swett "If it wasn't for students I wouldn't have a job."

Harry Swett has passion for the students on campus. His son was a LSC sophomore when he was killed in a snow machine accident.

"That's when I really realized how good the people here are," Swett said. "I have met some of the kindest nicest people I have ever met in my life."

Swett has been working

"Sometimes if I know a student is coming I'll put my hand in their mailbox and when they open it I'll try to grab them," Harry Swett, Mailroom director

at LSC for just under 17 years. He will be retiring on May 18

"I get to graduate from the college mailroom," Swett said.

Harry Swett spends a lot of time laughing in the mailroom. He grinned for the camera wearing fake teeth covered in bling.

"Sometimes if I know a student is coming I'll put my hand in their mailbox and when they open it I'll try to grab them," Swett said.

"Humor is the grease that keeps the wheel of life turning," Swett said

"They're a great student, good attitude," Swett said pointing to a fake rate he had put in a students mailbox.

"This job has allowed me to be a real good spectator of the next generation," Swett said. "It's been so nice to see kids come in as kids and grow up to be mature adults."

Swett had some comments about troubles he had with the way LSC has changed.

"We are more than a business," Swett said. "I don't think students get what they deserve."

"We are so much becoming a big business rather than caring about people," Swett said. "If it wasn't for students none of us would have jobs."

Swett talked about students who needed help not being able to find the outlets to get it on campus.

"I see a huge disconnect going on," Swett said "There are three big areas of communication, phones, e-mail and the mailroom."

"Students aren't using any of them," Swett said. "I see that as a big issue."

Swett was also interested in making a place on campus for people to sit and meditate or pray or simply reflect.

""Life happens, death happens, there is all kinds of stress," Swett said. "Having a place to go that is private will benefit everyone."

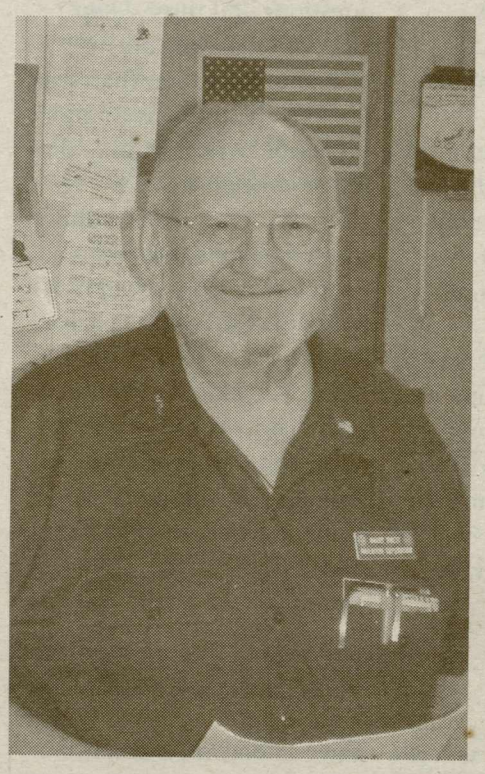
Swett calls this proposed room the reflection room to avoid being politically incorrect.

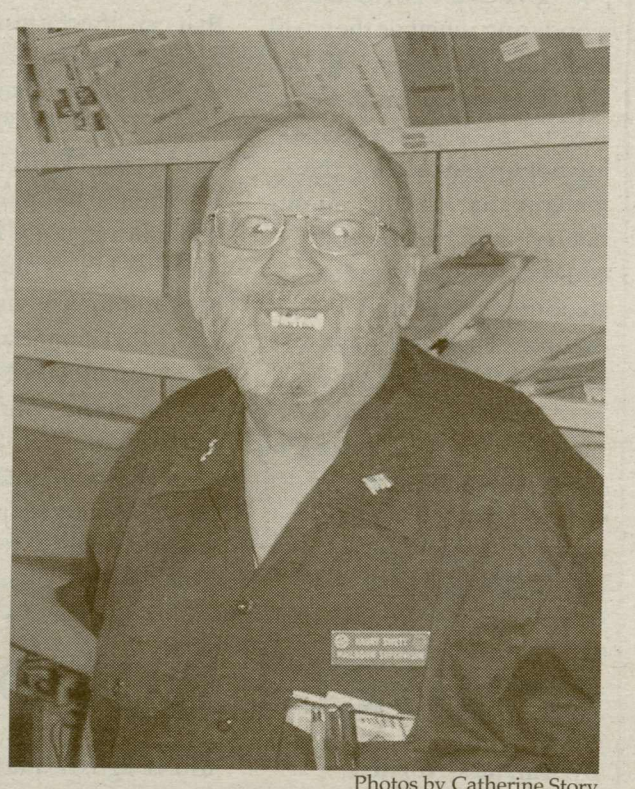
Swett has worked in many fields in his life. He worked at the Fairbanks in St Johnsbury, a paper mill, he sold life insurance and he worked for GE in Burlington.

It was at GE that Swett met his wife of almost 38 years.

Swett finally ended up at Northeast tool where he was laid off one week short of a year.

That's when he started putting in applications. What was suppose to be a temporary job as a janitor progressed in just a few short months into a full time position as the mailroom supervisor.





Photos by Catherine Story

Harry Swett, Mailroom supervisor, is known for his sense of humor. Dubbed Dean of the Mailroom by the LSC community, he plans on retiring this year.

RBC will soon be BYOB

Students 21 and over will be able to drink in their suites

By Ben Holbrook
Managing Editor

New suites will be available for students 21 and older in Rita Bole for the fall semester, which will allow upperclass students the chance to consume alcohol in their common area.

The new suites in RBC are being made available to all eligible students for the 2008 fall semester.

The suite arrangements have been in the plans for a while Jonathan Davis, interim director of student life, said. RBC is the most practical choice for having the 21 and older suites since there are more regulations for students to be able to live there, Davis said.

In order to be eligible to live in RBC you must have a minimum GPA of a 2.0 and have a clean judiciary record from the previous school year.

The residential life staff and the school administration are aware that there is the potential for people to abuse the new privileges but, "we're confident it will work out well," Davis said. Previously, students who were 21 or older would only be allowed to drink in their rooms and any alcohol in the suite refrigerator would have to be labeled with their name.

The new suite arrangements would allow students the opportunity to consume alcohol in the suite area as long as they didn't engage in inappropriate drinking habits, Davis said.

Any inappropriate drinking includes binge drinking, and any drinking games, Davis said.

Since the 21 and older suites are a new addition to the housing plans, adjustments will be made from year to year to address any issues, Davis said.

Students who are interested in living in a suite designated for anyone 21 and older are required to fill out an application and then they will go through a group interview with their other suite members, and a group signing of the housing contract, Davis said.

Even if a suite has all students over 21 but they don't have the approved 21 and over status, then they are able to apply for it at any point during the school year. However, students must apply for the 21 or older status in order to be considered a suite that is designated for people over 21, otherwise they wont' be allowed to consume alcohol in the common area, Davis said.

The 21 and older status can be revoked at anytime due to students abusing the policy or in a worst-case scenario, a younger student is put into the suite because there isn't room for the person anywhere else on campus, Davis said.

"We'll do our best to not allow a person under 21 in a 21 or older suite," Davis said.

The hopes for the new housing are that it will teach people how to drink responsibly because, "we know across the campus that we could never say no to alcohol," Davis said.

The 21 or older suites will most likely not be formed until the school year begins again in the fall but the number of students who are 21 or older is known so the appropriate number of spaces can be made available. RBC has 132 spaces available among 23 suites.

Feeling sunk by mid-term crunch?

Have some tips from LSC and the Internet on how to not waste your tuition dollars on lame grades

By Jennifer Ingram
Critic Staff

The semester is at its half way point, and those with poor grades are stressed and wondering whether they will make the final passing grade.

There can be multiple reasons for poor grades including not understanding the material that is being taught, not trying as hard as you could have, or not understanding how to study. All is not lost. There are ways to improve those poor grades.

"I have always had a hard time in math. I am struggling to keep up and understand the material that is being taught in basic algebra," Annie Hinman, a Human Services sophomore, said.

"When people have certain beliefs they only accept things that reinforce that, and that can make for hostile environments, and many times that can affect a students grade," Joseph Rieckman, a Human Services sophomore, said.

"I could be doing better in my classes; but part of the reason that I'm not is due to the fact that I have different views and opinions on moral matters," Rieckman said.

No matter what the reason for doing poorly, there are useful tips to help improve your semester grades, to better understand course material and to bring that poor grade up to a passing grade.

Midway in the semester is not too late.

"The three most important things that students can do to improve their grades are one, go to class, two, ask questions and three, keep track of what they are expected to do, rather than waiting for reminders from the professor," Andrea Luna, professor of English, said.

" Students need to understand that college courses generally require about two hours of studying for each hour in class -- about six hours a week for a three-credit course; if they don't know what they should be studying during those six hours, they should ask," Luna said.

Don't believe people from Lyndon ? Well then see about.com's *How to Improve Midterm Grades by the End of the Semester* and see what the Internet has to say on the subject.

1) Get it together!
Get an assignment book. Better yet, use it.

2) Suck up a little.
Show your professors that you're serious about getting better. See about extra credit assignments or practice problems you can do.

3) Go to class...duh.
oddly enough, going to class is a good way to learn. Your professors will notice your dedication and it's less to study later on.

4) Fix what's broke.
Do you stink at writing essays? Do you choke on all your tests? Perhaps you party too much. Whatever it is you do, or don't do, identify it and fix the problem. You can't make it better if you're clueless.

5) Help!
Study with a friend, get a tutor, see your professor about extra help, there's no reason to go it alone.

It might not be the flu, but you're still sick

By Amanda Wozniak
Special to the Critic

LSC Senior, Michelle French recently came down with a cold.

"I think I got it from school, just being around everyone else that's sick," French said.

She has had it for about a week and is going to see a doctor. Her symptoms include a sore throat, runny nose and cough. She is also getting headaches.

She has missed two days of school due to her cold. Her roommate, who also attends LSC is sick as well.

That's not all that's going around, however. "This year there is something else going around. It looks a lot like the flu," Sue Duckett, a R.N. at the Brown House said.

About five to seven students arrive at the Brown House each day with the same thing. Students started coming in with these symptoms in November then it turned into a "tidal wave" of students, Duckett said. It peaked in January and February.

> "It seems like whatever 'it' is it's pretty severe and pretty infectious,"
> Sue Duckett, R.N. at the Brown House.

The students' symptoms include body aches, fever, a dry cough, headaches, severe tiredness, and chest discomfort, all of which are commonly seen in the flu.

Students' symptoms also include nausea and diarrhea, which is not typical of the flu.

Some students are even having a hard time getting out of bed because their body aches are so severe.

"I don't know how many kids we've seen with it, tons and tons," Duckett said.

Duckett explained that it is difficult to know whether or not these students actually have the flu.

If a patient is not tested in the first 24 hours of the onset of symptoms it's likely to come back negative even if it is present. "It seems like whatever 'it' is it's pretty severe and pretty infectious," Duckett said.

Almost all of the students that are arriving at the Brown House showing flu-like symptoms did not receive the flu vaccine.

The flu vaccine protects against very specific types of the flu (groups A and B).

This means that even with the flu vaccination people can still be infected by a different strain. Because viruses have the ability to mutate it can't protect against all of them.

Duckett recommends getting the flu vaccine in late fall but says it can be taken anytime. The vaccine takes two weeks to become effective.

The flu is an overwhelming infection in your body and can become pneumonia (inflammation of the lungs). Pneumonia can be bacterial or viral.

With viral pneumonia antibiotics don't help.

Duckett also works at Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital (NVRH). She added that people with the same symptoms are overwhelming the hospital.

Most people with symptoms didn't get the flu vaccination while some did.

A young healthy woman recently died at the hospital of influenza, something Duckett had never seen before.

Some new strains of viruses can be attributed to travel, which causes a wider spread of illnesses. "Viruses that used to be a little slower to travel around the world are fast," Duckett said.

Viruses cause dehydration so people with flu-like symptoms or a cold should increase fluid intake.

Fluids, rest and Tylenol for pain are three things that will help your body fight a virus.

Antiviral medications can be given but they will only shorten the infection by about 24 hours and may lessen symptoms.

People with asthma, emphysema, or HIV should take them.

Hand Washing is the best way to prevent a cold or flu. Avoid direct contact with people that are coughing or sneezing and try not to let yourself get run down.

Alcohol a driving factor behind most Public Safety and RAs disturbances

Photo by Ryan Lee

This alcohol was confiscated from students in the Wheelock residence hall. Any alcohol paraphernalia can also be taken.

By Joey Stewart
Special to the Critic

Alcohol is behind nearly every Public Safety call on campus, George Hacking, director of Public Safety said.

"Many of the offenses that we deal with involve alcohol," Hacking said.

Ryanne Ayers, a Residential Assistant in Wheelock, said, "All of the incidences of disruptive behavior that I have personally dealt with on campus were alcohol related, but then again, I have not really dealt with all that many."

"The only time I would call Public Safety is if I feel I'm in danger," Ayers said. "It has been my experience that most people in an incident realize they've broken a rule and usually comply."

Violations of school policies, as well as violations of state law on campus are normally all alcohol related.

"Every college has its share of drinking and it seems like there is more here because our campus is small, but I don't think it's any worse here than anywhere else," Ayers said.

Hacking said that he doesn't support the drinking age being lowered to 18, because he has seen many 18-19 year olds on campus who can't handle alcohol, "Twenty-one isn't a magic number, but if one has to be set, it's a good one."

"I would eliminate it from the residence halls," Hacking said, "and I would not be opposed to an on-campus pub-type club that had food, but served some alcohol."

Students could sit and drink, but take alcohol to their rooms, no under age people would be served, and it would teach people how to handle alcohol in social settings, Hacking said.

When asked what he thought about LSC becoming a dry campus, Hacking said, "I don't see where it would change anything. People would still break the rules. They're doing it now, so what's one more rule going to do."

Ayers had a similar thought. "I think if it wasn't alcohol, it would be something else."

Holy Sheet

New to the syllabus

By Jordan Royer
Critic Columnist

I just finished reading an article in Time Magazine that discussed the most popular websites for college-aged students. With no surprise it is social network websites like Facebook and MySpace. Slipping all the way to number four is puerno sites.

You might wonder how I stumbled across such an article, but funny thing is, it was actually by looking at Facebook. I was checking some recent wall posts on a friends wall and came across one that said, "red tube is the most innovative website since Wikipedia. Its unique vision provides insight into some of the more dynamic areas of the porn industry," Time Magazine. After seeing this, I had to find the article in Time it came from. Well, after a hearty search I came up empty finding this quote in an article but it did lead me to statistics of most popular websites, which I thought was interesting.

While I searched Time I came across an article about porn that really interested me. It was about porn in the classroom. Right now I am taking a film class but the films they talked about in this article are by no means on my syllabus. The article was all about colleges and universities around the country who are having classes about pornographic films. I thought to myself, wow, if only I had discovered such classes more than two months before I graduate. Then I thought, Lyndon State is expanding the film study program, maybe it will include such flicks as Debbie does Dallas or Wet Latinas IV. Probably not.

Anyway, although I couldn't find a source to back up the original statement about Redtube, I was quite satisfied with what I did uncover. Maybe I will go to grad school after all, get my masters in the puern industry. Wouldn't that be something.

Position of the Week-
Alabama Crab Dangle

Party Appetizers

By Gwen Cook
Critic Columnist

So I was getting ready to make pizza for dinner one night last week. My boyfriend suggested doing a couple different pizzas, sort of as an eating contest. I originally was dead set on only the regulars like pepperoni and ham but we started to get creative. Long story short, they were all super delicious and I thought I would share them with you.

Stuffed Crust Hawaiian Pizza
Ingredients-

1 pre-made pizza dough
1 bag of shredded cheese
1 jar of pizza sauce
2 tbsp. parmesan cheese
8-9 mozzarella sticks
1 jar of diced pineapple, drained
6 slices of ham, diced
1 tbsp. olive oil (optional*)

Procedure-

Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Flour your hands and begin rolling out the pizza dough on a lightly floured regular sized pizza pan or a 13in. by 9in. cookie pan. Don't stop until the dough is hanging over the edges. Take the mozzarella sticks and place them about 1 inch in from the edge of the dough. Roll remaining dough over them and pinch to a close. *Lightly brush olive oil over the crust/edges.* Sprinkle parmesan cheese over the dough. Spread pizza sauce over the cheese. Sprinkle the shredded cheese next followed by the pineapple and ham toppings. Place in oven for 25-30 minutes or until the cheese is melted and the crust is golden brown.

Letter Policy:

The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must include the author's phone number and address. The Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:

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(dan.williams@lsc.vsc.edu)

Letter to the editor: Stonehenge parking is causing no end of problems for students

Dear Editor,

I am going to have to argue against the parking that is on campus. I am mainly talking about the Stonehenge parking lot because that is where I park my car. Lots of people that park in that parking lot do not know how to follow lines. Throughout the entire parking lot there are big white lines that show you where to park your car. It's crazy how when you drive around the parking lot you see all these cars over the lines and in two spots.

It has been very difficult over the winter to see those lines because of the snow. People were parking all over the place. Now since most of the snow has melted there are still cars parked in spots that really are not there. Most people who live in Stonehenge leave on the weekend. This is good for the people like me who stay and have to work. As everyone leaves many prime parking spots open up. Starting Sunday night through Monday morning people take up all those good spots.

You then have to resort to parking in the way back and walking about a mile to get into your dorms. Another thing that really gets me about the parking is the people that take all the good spots at the beginning of the week and keep their car parked there all week.

The worst thing about the parking lot at Stonehenge is the crazy frost heaves. You have to go about ten miles an hour just to make it out of the parking lot. It feels like you are about to go off a dirt bike jump every time you want to park. Getting through the parking lot is like going through a maze. Another part about the parking lot is how you can lose your car. If you come in late at night you do not remember where you parked your car.

Sincerely,
Ian Weber

Letter to the editor: Tutsi occupation of the Congo Democratic Republic needs to be stopped soon

Dear Editor,

The occupation of Tutsi in Democratic Republic of Congo should stop. The Tutsi tribe wants to take over the Congolese government so it can control the Congo. The Tutsi tribe also has been encouraged to become citizens of the Democratic Republic of the Congo by the influence of several countries including Britain, South Africa, Rwanda, Uganda, Burundi and other developing countries. The support from these nations to the Tutsi tribe is suspect because these countries want to exploit the Congo's resources.

The Tutsi believe they are a better tribe than the Congolese tribes. The Congolese are fighting against the Tutsi and demanding they go back to Rwanda where they came from. The Tutsi do not want to go back to Rwanda, or even surrender to the Congolese government, they want to stay and protect their families. Laurent Nkunda is a political leader and a voice for the Tutsi, who endorses unfriendly actions against Congolese government. Laurent Nkunda says the Tutsi are protecting themselves from the Hutu-dominated Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda. The Hutu controlled the Rwandan government and when the Hutu president died, they began genocide against the Tutsi in 1994. 800,000 Tutsi died with disaster genocide in Rwanda. The human rights Violations came from both sides: the remnants of the Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) regime that coordinated the genocide in Rwanda in 1994 moved to Congo/Zaire to set up their weapons training camps and plan to go back to Rwanda. They count on taking over Rwanda from the Tutsi. Both Tutsi and FDLR use children to fight against each other. It is easy to get these children to fight, because they come from poor and broken homes. These youth are living in the Congolese combat zone and do not have a chance to go to school and they turn to violence. Citizens of the Congo suffer from the ethnocentric actions of the Tutsi and FDLR. However it is not just the Congolese who are in trouble, but the peoples of Rwanda and the general public of all central Africa countries. The violence between the two positions has led to the destruction of communities by stealing, damaging property, kidnapping women, and the killing of over five million people. Since the Congolese have been invaded by the Tutsi, there has been no end to the fighting that takes place today.

-Verite Oscar Makuni
Former Congo citizen

Letter to the editor: Smoking ban a good thing

Dear Editor,

The smoking ban is wonderful. Living in Stonehenge is nicer now; before it was like walking thru a chimney, with everybody smoking in front of the door, just far enough away from the building so that it was allowed on campus, but close enough that everyone ends up having to walk thru it to get into the building.

It is nice not having smoke blowing into students when they have someone smoking in front of them as they walk to class.

Maybe walking to the parking lot in the freezing ice and snow will even encourage some people to quit smoking.

Occasionally the whole stairwell of the Whitelaw building smells like smoke. One has to wonder if people are smoking in the building.

You can sometimes see people smoke while they walk but since the smoking ban it is not seen nearly as often.

There is nothing wrong with people smoking; but who wants to breathe it if they don't have to?

The crackdown on smoking as been great; students don't have to smell smoke or breathe smoke if they don't want to.

If you don't smoke why should you have to smell like it?

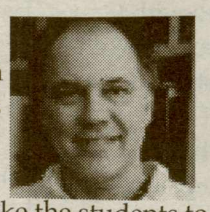
Why should you have to breathe in secondhand smoke just walking around campus? What if you got lung cancer from having to walk thru smoke to get to get to your dorm?

The college should be thanked for creating this new rule and for enforcing it. Lyndon is a healthier environment for the smoking ban.

People won't feel like they should have to hold their breath to walk up to their building. The smoke free air is healthier and a lot nicer to breathe.

-Katrina Ploof

Meet the club advisers



Professor of English, Chandler Gilman, Literary Society:

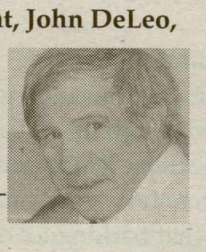
Back in 1991, Gilman had a much more hands on approach to advising the Literary Society. "Initially I saw (the adviser) as the person who would call the meetings and make sure things got done."

These days, he lets the students take the reigns. "I would like the students to take responsibility for running the club," Gilman said, although he admits that things ran smoother when he was taking charge. "We got more things done."

Director of First-Year Experience, Donna Keely, Dance Team:

The title of coach better suites Keely for the role she plays with the Dance Team. Keely was asked by a former dance team member three years ago to help with the Dance Team due to her own prior experience with dance.

"I have taken on more of a coaching role rather than an advising role with them," Keely said.



Professor of Recreation Resource and Ski Resort Management, John DeLeo, High Society

"Where did they ever come up with that name?" DeLeo wondered about High Society, the club he advises which was formerly called Daggers.

DeLeo seems to exemplify the hands-off approach to advising student clubs. "I'm just a figurehead. They come to me to get things signed," DeLeo said. Although, sometimes High Society members do ask him questions.

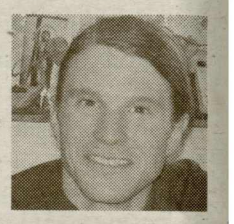
DeLeo sees clubs as important things on campus that let students form social networks that last lifetimes. "At least when there is a question, they have someone to come and talk to about it," Deleo said.

Professor of Math and Computer Science, Julie Theoret, Alpha Lambda Delta

Keeping tabs on executive officers, helping to organize induction ceremonies, and fielding questions from parents, is the role Theoret plays as adviser to Alpha Lambda Delta, a freshman honors society with a chapter at LSC.

Size has been a bit of an issue for ALD this semester. "Right now they're dealing with a very small group of students," Theoret said.

Theoret also likes to let the students handle their own club affairs when possible. "I'm as involved as they want me to be," Theoret said.



Instructor of Recreation Resource and Ski Resort Management, Kelly Rossiter, Outing Club

"For the Outing Club, I mainly try to be an advocate," Rossiter said. "Right now we're dealing with some aging equipment."

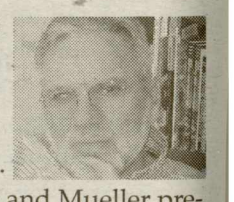
Rossiter helps the Outing Club get the new equipment that it needs and puts them in contact with resources.

Rossiter doesn't physically do much with the club and its adventures. "My job involves going out with students on the weekends anyway, so that occupies a lot of my time."

Professor of Meteorology, Jason Shafer, Lyndon Ultimate

"I'm pretty hands off," Shafer said about his dealings as Lyndon Ultimate's adviser. "If you have a good student leadership, your job is pretty easy."

SShafer sees being a club's adviser as an opportunity to interact with students outside of an academic environment. "They drive the ship very well, we just make sure they don't hit land."



Professor of Digital and Graphic Arts, Harry Mueller, Outside the Box

Mueller credits Barclay Tucker, professor of Digital and Graphic Arts, with jumpstarting Outside the Box, a club dedicated to teaching students graphic design beyond the classroom.

Even though it was started with their initiative, both Tucker and Mueller prefer to let student steer. "It's all student-driven, absolutely," Mueller said. "I see myself as an adviser for the college and the design community. I support them and give them alternative ideas."

Annual art competition

Gwen Cook
Critic Staff

LSC is hosting it's sixth annual student art competition.

The basic idea of the competition is to distinguish students around the college who do exemplary work in the visual arts field.

However, this competition is open to any LSC student no matter what major.

Most colleges with Visual Arts programs hold competitions very much like this one.

It allows students to realize how competitive the arts field really is.

This in turn will help to better them for their future after college.

"Our work is constantly judged and compared to others", Barclay Tucker said,

"The Arts are highly competitive and we need to start thinking in terms of how we can better ourselves and our work and still remain true to who we are as artists."

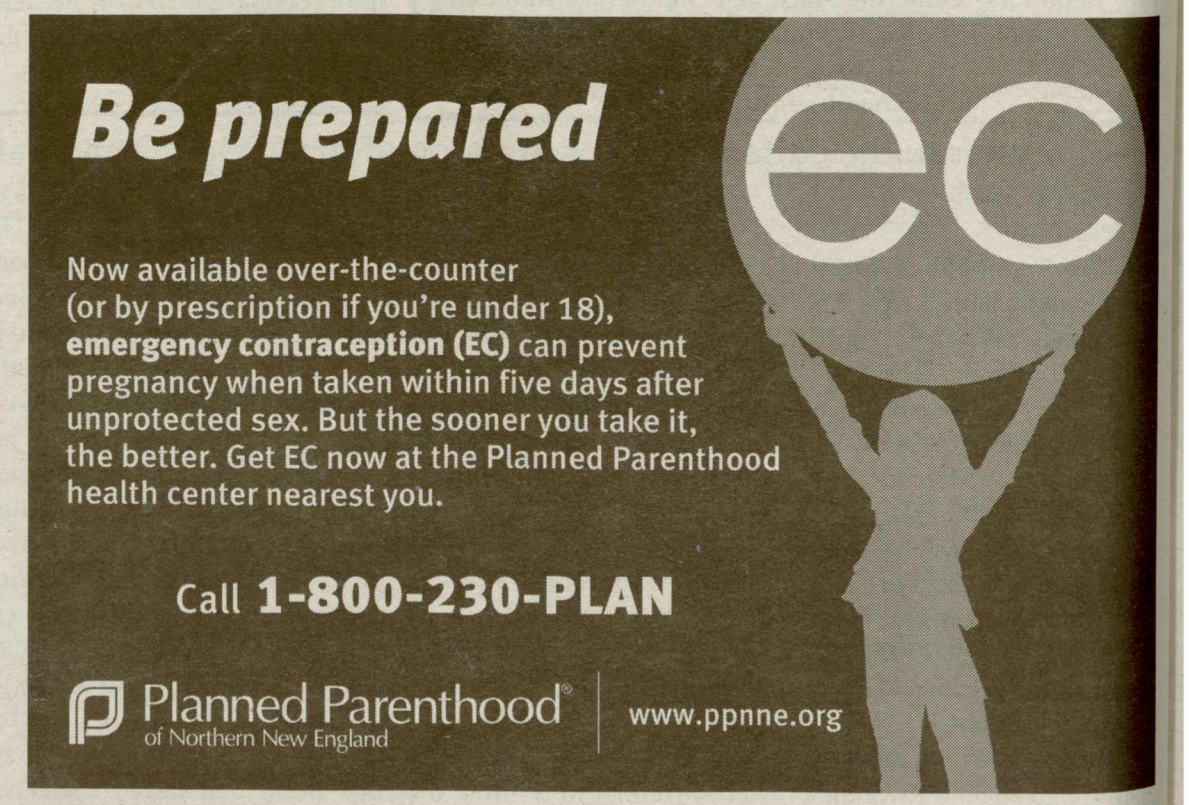
They are awarded for their work with a gold, silver, and bronze placement for each class.

Best of show and a Best Freshman award are the other such honors that the judges will be looking for.

Top awards will be given a monetary award in a range from $10-$100.

The Award Ceremony will be held on Thursday April 17 at 12:30 p.m. in front of the Quimby Gallery.

The work will be able to be viewed in the Gallery from April 17-May 6.



SGA involvement needs to change

By Nathaniel Champagne
Critic Staff

The question is how does one help to improve the lifestyle of LSC students.

"Students need to be more involved", says Laura Sullivan, house rep for the Society of Professional Journalism, when asked about LSC's Student Government Association (SGA). According to Sullivan the meetings don't run smoothly because they are not planned properly. They drag long into the night because of personal feelings between clubs.

Stephan Gingras a two year senator, a member of the Lecture and Arts Committee and Festival Committee, as well as the Vermont State College Association and sits on the Board of Elections has this to say about the SGA, "Our Student Government use to run much like our own American Government, with a house of representatives made up of club appointed representations and a senate made up of student body appointed senators. Both these groups used to be in charge of SGA budgeting, whereby the House of Representatives would decide on a budget then bring it to the senate for approval or rejection. Although after failing to hold a spring election last year, it was decided that the SGA was failing to comply with its own constitution. Due to this, Brandon Buckley and Kate Murphy, the SGA advisors, have stepped in to help deal with proceedings.

According to Jonathan Davis advisors to the SGA are to act as official liaisons to the administration. Also the decision was made to do away with the House of Representatives and the Senate and replace both with a single body government. This single body student government allows the House of Representatives to hold onto their money but the money that the Senate controls was put into the hands of the SGA President Jonathan Maciel and Treasurer Brian Quigley. After the switch to this single body government more power was given to an executive board within the SGA. According to Sullivan, this combined with the lack of a vice president or secretary and a shortage of senators (4 out of 12) is causing meetings to not run smoothly.

According to Gingras, this is creating a less democratic Student Government, giving certain clubs and interest groups more say, as well as giving two non-students control over everything that is done. Gingras has also expressed frustration over the presence of Jonathan Davis at SGA meeting speaking out of turn, to eject certain clubs from the SGA of which he has no right to do. Sullivan has also expressed displeasure with the situation of Jonathan Davis at SGA meetings, "I have no idea why he sits in for budgeting and makes suggestions". Sullivan has even filed a formal complaint with Dean of Academics about Jonathan Davis and an outburst directed at her. The Dean supported Davis' remarks.

Though through all the internal conflicts that exist in our Student Government all members had this to say, "The only way for this to change is for students to get more involved in the Student Government Association".

LSC welcomes Poet Laureate

By Norman Johnson
Special to the Critic

Ted Kooser, U.S. Poet Laureate 2004-2006, was on the LSC campus to give two writing workshops and a reading of his work Thursday.

Kooser, a professor of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, is known for his clear and accessible style. "I want a broad general audience. I want an audience beyond the literary community," Kooser said in a Wednesday interview on VPR.

"I like observing something from a distance," Kooser said about his writing. "I prefer not to be in my poems as an observer. Inspiration is not a term I'm terribly comfortable with. I like to see what's in front of me, try to be present, to observe things, and as a result I write about a lot of very ordinary, uninteresting things. But in the process I might stumble upon something that really moves me. I can form a poem around that emotion."

Like the writer Wallace Stevens, Kooser worked in the insurance industry 35 years to pay the bills. "I never saw myself as an insurance executive, but rather as a writer in need of a paying job," Kooser said in a Barnes and Noble web article. Thrown out of graduate school for poor performance, "I needed to find something to do, some kind of work. It was an entry level job," Kooser said in his easy great plains accent. "Poetry has never paid the big bucks, I don't think for anybody."

Kooser stopped writing and working in the late 1990s when he developed cancer. When he started writing again, he began by mailing daily poems on cards to friend and writer Jim Harrison. From this collaboration came "Winter Morning Walks: 100 Postcards to Jim Harrison," in which he examined during his walks his life and mortality in metaphors from the land around him.

Kooser started the newspaper/online publication project American Life in Poetry as the U.S. Poet Laureate. American Life in Poetry is a free column which Kooser introduces a new American writer every week with a few words of commentary. "I want to show the people who read newspapers that poetry can be for them, can give them a chuckle or insight," Kooser said.

Kooser's prizes include: the Pulitzer Prize, U.S. Poet Laureate 2004-2006, 2 NEA fellowships, the Pushcart Prize, the Stanley Knitz prize, and the Boatwright Prize. He presently teaches English at University of Nebraska-Lincoln, is editor of the Lincoln Journal Star, and lives on his place near Garland, Nebraska. He is the author of numerous collections of poetry and several books of non-fiction.

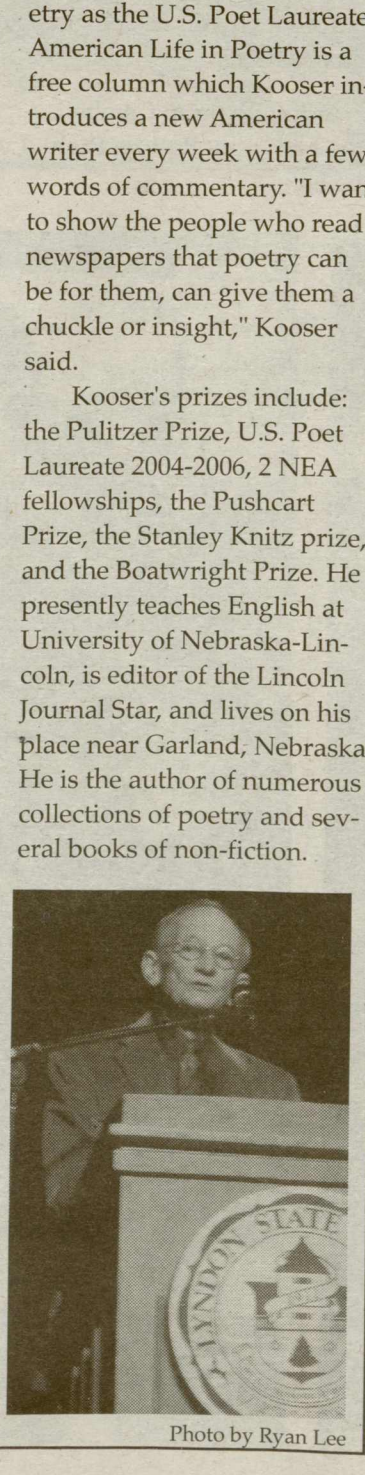


Photo by Ryan Lee

Broken buses leads to a unique NYC experience

By Heather Perkins
Special to the Critic

After a bit of trouble, the two buses bound for New York City found themselves stranded in New Haven, Conn. Students return to their buses after taking a break at a rest stop, and once departing again, both drivers find that they cannot shift out of first gear.

But with a slow crawl, the two safely make it to the nearby exit and settle into a Pilot truck station, where, unable to be fixed, students wait two hours before the company sends replacement buses to take them the hour left to the city.

"I just hope we never use that bus company again," John Day-Fratto said after the trip.

Luckily, due to the lost time, the participants of the trip were granted an extra hour of perusing the city, leaving at midnight instead.

"It's pretty ironic that this would happen," Dave Marx said, "but it's not CAB's fault."

Photos by Heather Perkins

Students are waiting patiently for another means of transportation in order to continue on to their trip to New York City. Their original buses broke down about an hour from the city.

Snow Bowl

Chicks dig it!

Photos by Ryan Lee

A few of the rugy tournaments on snow are held in Canada, Antarctica and Lyndon Vermont according to Brian Cambell.

Above: SVC Fullback tackles Lyndon State's Nadia Drum Left: SVC and LSC scrum even after the ball is out Bottom Right: Lyndon State's Natalie Lavioe hurries to get back on side Bottom left: One player gets pummeled as others vie for possession of the ball.

"The Critic is propaganda! . . .You can't quote me! What? (Cradles head in hands.) Hey. . . Stop typing."
-LSC Student pressured into providing this week's quote.

Linux Crossword For Da' Haters

W	N	K	D	R	Y	C	A	Y	F	W	D	I	G	U	Q	O	P	C	F	N	G	W	Y	P
L	K	A	N	R	G	C	Q	R	M	X	O	C	K	V	T	Y	C	R	L	H	M	X	X	E
L	I	F	S	A	G	F	S	S	D	L	A	V	R	O	T	N	D	Y	P	G	A	A	V	C
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K	R	Z	U	Z	M	J	Z	T	D	W	W	M	U	B	Q	I	A	B	B	G	B	W	H	T
D	D	F	G	X	O	N	A	C	G	N	O	M	E	U	C	E	X	U	U	I	K	J	H	D
Y	E	L	V	H	U	F	R	O	Z	E	N	B	U	B	B	L	E	H	A	W	A	W	P	R
Z	P	K	P	H	N	I	Z	F	F	Z	E	R	V	T	A	B	C	E	L	G	Z	N	A	T
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J	E	W	P	F	I	Z	E	G	R	O	F	E	C	R	U	O	S	M	R	I	H	P	P	O
V	N	P	D	W	N	R	G	I	R	H	E	G	H	C	A	Y	K	K	E	R	N	E	L	R
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V	S	K	R	T	Y	I	N	E	T	B	U	P	Z	B	X	K	U	Z	E	V	S	T	E	S

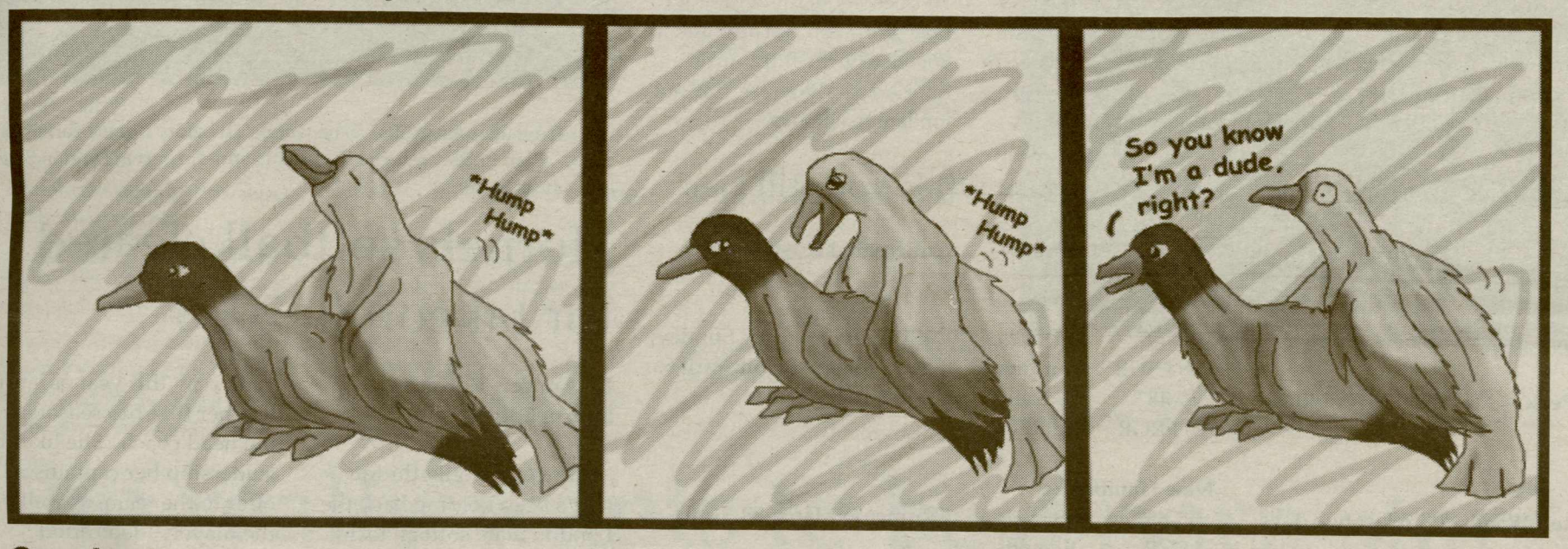
In this puzzle you will find out about the world of open source:
Debian Linux Ubuntu Torvalds Kernel Gnome Frozen Bubble
grep cshell Sourceforge Tux Dependencies
Mountpoint Fedora Xorg

Sudoku is back with a vengeance!!!

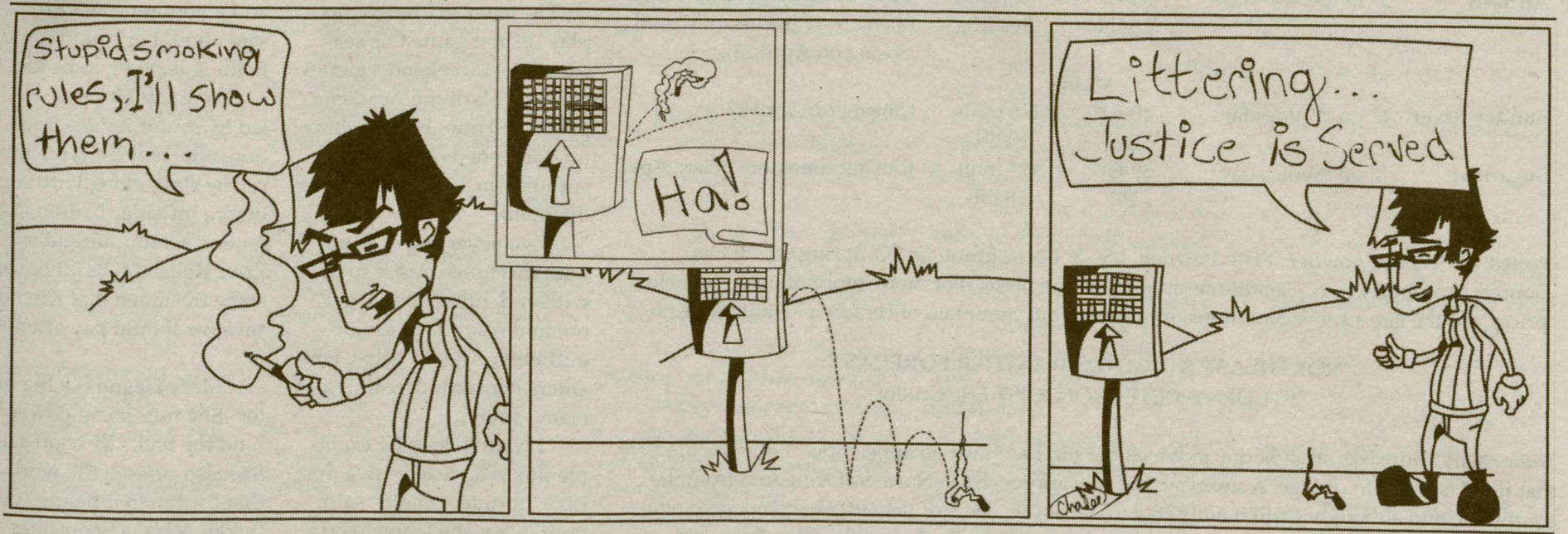
			9					4
		9	3				7	
2								5
			8				1	
			6	4			2	
3	7						8	6
			2	5				1
	2	5			6		3	
	9	1					5	

Puzzle generated with Java Sudoku Version 1.0.1, released under the GPL by Samantha Yen. Kudos to Dan Brook for finding it!

Animal Behavior By Kathy Harrington



Smoker's Pen By Charles Lockwood



Conflict of Comp. By:Mark Coran

I'm going to try to put the answers of this week's two (yes, count them. TWO) puzzles in next week's Fun Page. Are you happy the Sudoku is back? No, you are selfish and are still angry at me because I haven't given you horoscopes to live your little lives by in months. Sorry, I'm a busy man!

I'm carefully observing you as you complete this sudoku.

I don't recommend that you put a one in that box.
-OLoF

Floor hockey back as intramural sport

By Brian Howe
Special to the Critic

Students at Lyndon State College have once again found the delights of intramural floor hockey. The recreational sport almost didn't happen this year, but thanks to Dave Marks and Andy Saltarella they worked together to make it happen.

Every Sunday and Wednesday night from eight to eleven, six teams get together in the Rita Bole gym to play floor hockey. Two teams at a time play for an hour each. Before spring break they play a round-robin tournament, where the teams play each other an equal amount of times. After spring break they have a double elimination tournament. The formats for the tournaments change each year due to the turnout of students that want to participate.

Intramural floor hockey almost didn't take place this year. Not many people wanted to take on the responsibility of making teams.

"I found enough people to start six teams. It's a lot of fun and a great program," said Marks, a freshmen and a television studies major. Marks is also the captain of The Rush.

"I am glad we were able to put a league together," Andy Saltarella, a freshmen and a business major said. You can find him refereeing while the teams play. Both Salterella and Marks are very big into hockey. They live together in the same town and wanted a team there but are now happy they can enjoy floor hockey here at the college. Now that there are more afternoon and evening classes the gyms are used more which made a difference when they needed a facility to play floor hockey.

The years prior to this year haven't been that strong and many students didn't want to play floor hockey. Sports go in a cycle. Some years they are very strong and sometimes they aren't.

"I am very pleased with this year's turnout. This is one of my favorite activities." Sue Henry, the intramural director for twenty years strong, said. She hopes that the turnout continues in the following years.

Students here at the college also voiced their opinion about intramural floor hockey.

"I think it is lame, to be completely honest it should be on ice," Nora Barney, a freshmen and a natural science said.

"I would like to play but I have too much work to worry about," Rocco D'Amato, a freshmen and a Graphic Design major said.

If you would like to play intramural floor hockey it meets every Sunday and Wednesday night at the Rita Bole gym. You can also talk to Sue Henry, the intramural floor hockey director. It is not too late to sign up.

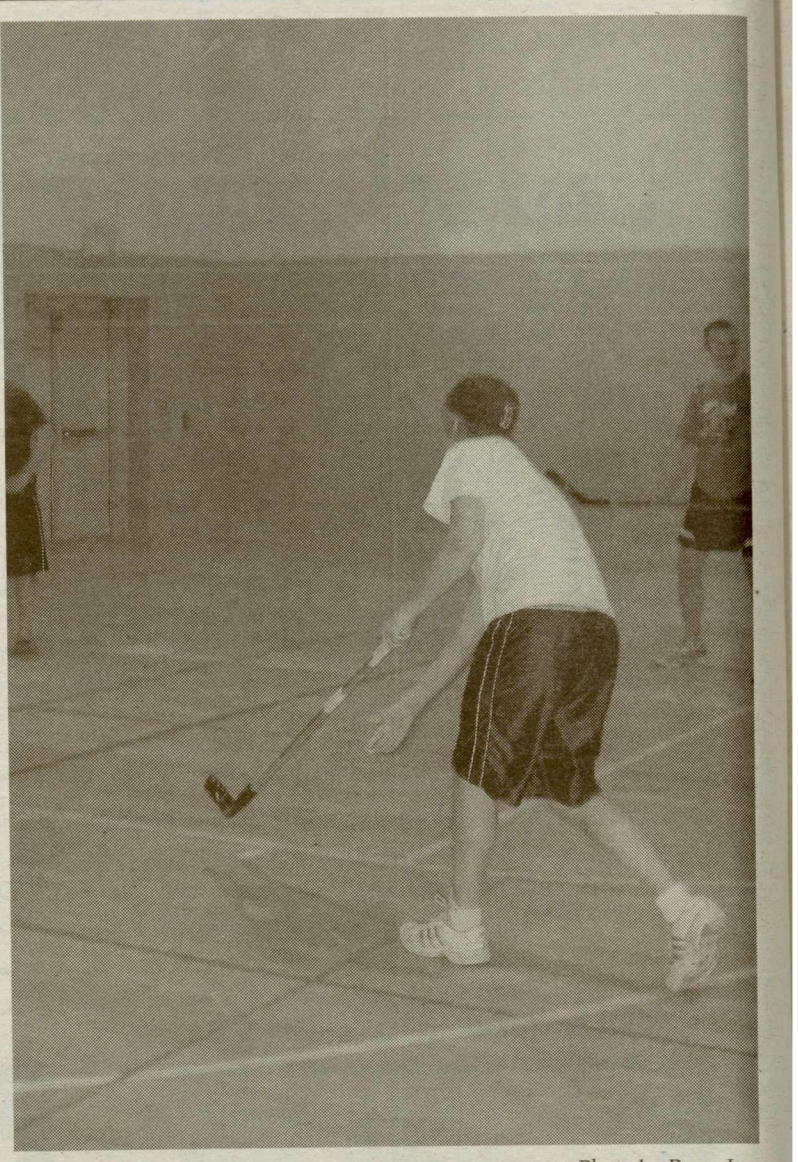


Photo by Ryan Lee

Phil Gangnath takes a shot as he warms up before a game earlier this week. Floor hockey returned as an intramural sport at Lyndon State earlier this month.

LSC Ski & Board Report - get out there while you still can!

Resort	Recent Snow	Base	Open	Anticipated closing date
		Vermont		
Burke Mtn.	no new snow this week	12-40" PP/LSGR	42 trails, four lifts	Daily operation ends Sunday; closing for season on April 6. Closing dates TBA.
Jay Peak	3" on Wednesday	24-48" PP/FRGR	76 trails, eight lifts	
		New Hampshire		
Bretton Woods	1" in last two days	55-65" LSGR	99 trails, five lifts	Closing on March 30.
Attitash	3" in last two days	30-70" LSGR	72 trails, five lifts	Daily operation ends Sunday; open on weekends only until closing on April 13.
		Maine		
Sunday River	1" on Wednesday	40-62" SC	116 trails, 10 lifts	Closing on April 27.
Sugarloaf	1" on Wednesday	30-60" PP	114 trails, 10 lifts	Closing sometime in late April

Notes: PP: Packed powder. PDR: Powder. LSGR: Loose granular. SC: Spring conditions.
Source: snocountry.com. Conditions as of Thursday night. For more information about ticket prices and the latest snow conditions, please call your mountain of choice or visit its website.

NORTHEAST KINGDOM WEATHER FORECAST

STUDENT METEOROLOGIST Eric Guillot

Today marks our sixth straight day in which the sun has made an appearance, but unfortunately that trend is about to change. A storm system will approach the Northeast Kingdom from the southwest, and although it will mainly stay to our south, some of the outer bands of precipitation should overtake the area, leaving an inch of two of snow in their wake. The storm will move out of New England fairly quickly on Friday night, however an upper-level system will remain with us for Saturday, presenting a chance for a snow shower or two all day. Luckily, Sunday looks to be beautiful! High pressure moving down from Canada should ensure clear skies, with temperatures reaching the middle 40s.

Friday: Snow likely, heaviest during the morning and early afternoon. One to two inches of accumulation expected. Snow will taper to snow and rain showers during the afternoon. Highs in the middle to upper 30s. Northwest winds 5-10 m.p.h. Tonight, a slight chance of flurries, otherwise mostly cloudy. Colder, with lows in the lower teens. Winds becoming calm.

Saturday: A chance of flurries and snow showers throughout the day. Continued below average temperatures. Highs in the low to mid-30s. Increasing winds later in the day. Tonight, flurries and snow showers come to an end. Another chilly night, with lows in the low to mid-teens.

Sunday: Sunny and much warmer. Highs in the middle to upper 40s. Calm winds. Warmer tonight as well. Lows in the low to mid-20s. Calm winds.

Hornets softball cleared for takeoff in 2008

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

So far, the only thing that's been holding back the Lyndon State softball team has been the weather.

The team still has yet to play its first game this season, as last weekend's games at Mass. Maritime Academy got rained out. But that hasn't dampened the players' enthusiasm to get back on the diamond.

"I've never seen a team with this much desire to be with each other, and to get out and play," said senior outfielder Angel Phelps, who enters her second year as a team captain.

"I want to lead by example this year, lead with a positive attitude," Phelps said, noting that she tends to be a little hard on herself at times. She says that the heart on this year's team is something that outsiders might not notice about the team.

Phelps is looking forward to playing for one more year under Jen Kirchoff, whom she played with as an underclassman.

"Having her as my coach brings back desires for me to push the team," Phelps said. "Jen pushed me for sure."

Kirchoff is also looking forward to watching her team play this year as she enters her first full season as the head coach. She likes the leadership her captains will offer to the team, as well as the players' dedication.

"We have some good bats and a young team," Kirchoff said about her squad. "Our fielding is going to be key."

The Lady Hornets will be led by senior Ashlea Bourdon, who is the top pitcher on the staff, along with sophomore infielder Lauren Potter and senior outfielder Erica Kelleher. But there are some freshmen that Kirchoff says we should pay attention to.

"Mary Gagne is a big hitter. She puts some power behind the ball," Kirchoff said. She also praised the work that freshman infielder/outfielder Natalia Shams has done in practice.

Kirchoff thinks her team has a pretty good chance of contending for the USCAA tournament this year.

"If all our heads are there, we should be there, or pretty close to it," Kirchoff said.

The team will look start that road to the postseason by winning its first games of the year this weekend when they play a pair of doubleheaders against Briarcliffe College and St. Joseph's College-Brooklyn in New York.

The Critic

Serving the student voice of Lyndon State College

One copy free, extras 50 cents each

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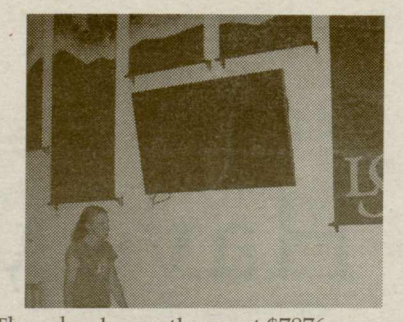

The school recently spent $7876 on a large television screen now displayed in the ATT. pg.2

LSC Met major serves time in Baghdad

By Brian Howe
Special to the Critic

Josh Fanjoy, an LSC student, was stationed in Baghdad, Iraq. His rank is Specialist E4, and his unit was four battalion 320 field artillery, part of the 101 airborne division.

Nearly 2000 were in the same station as him. It was hot in the Iraqi summer and the temperature would often reach 120 degrees while the coolest days during the winter only hit 60 degrees.

That didn't stop him from doing his job. "I had to guard that gate for our base; some days would be 12 hours long," Fanjoy said. He would sometimes hear bombs going off in the distance.

He didn't guard the gate all the time. His other duties included humanitarian missions, where he would help out the surrounding communities and try to make a better place for people to live. They would even give out food for people that had none, Fanjoy said.

Fanjoy didn't see much fighting in Baghdad. The most he saw was some mortars,

"The food here at LSC was about the same as the food in Iraq,"

-Josh Fanjoy, an LSC student and soldier.

and indirect fire. "It had its days, and had its off days," Fanjoy said. While he guarded the gate he didn't see much action. The most he heard while guarding the gate was bombs going off in the distance.

When Fanjoy wasn't working, he spent his time playing cards and watching television in their recreation center.

After the long days Fanjoy looked forward to being able to relax in the recreation center. Soldiers had a separate gym to work out in and lift weights. They also had a general store where they could buy DVDs or some snack food.

After the long days Fanjoy liked the food. "It was alright," Fanjoy said. The showers were warm and he could get food most of the time. Many people were found in the dining hall at one time. "The food here at LSC was about the same as the food in Iraq."

Fanjoy won't be at LSC next year. He will be at the Kessler Air Force base in Biloxi, Miss.

He will be going there for Air Force forecaster training. Fanjoy is currently a freshman meteorology major.

Photo by Ryan Lee

Josh Fanjoy studies meteorology at LSC and served overseas in Iraq. Fanjoy said that he would return to Iraq if he had to.

Who really wants to be a porn star?

By Catherine Story
Business Manager

An open discussion and educational slideshow about pornography was largely missed by LSC students.

Pat Shine, Henekis Stoddard and Carolyn Brown presented "Who wants to be a porn star?" to two LSC students Tuesday afternoon.

Stoddard attributed the low turnout to the nice weather and the awkward nature of the topic.

"This is the fourth or fifth time we've shown this and this is the lowest turn out," Stoddard said.

The presentation discussed the changes to a society that pornography is to blame for and the negative effects it has on the men and women who are exposed to it.

"Women learn that their worth is in their appearance," Stoddard said. "They learn to picture their bodies as a receptacle."

"Women who buy in are considered sluts and whores," Stoddard said. "Women who don't are prudes, don't like sex or are lesbians."

The presentation also looked at the difficulties men face from the ideals that porn instills.

"Pornography dehumanizes men because they are led to believe it's what they want," Stoddard said.

Stoddard used an example of a man who had admitted he "can't be sexual with a woman without fantasizing about porn."

"Men don't get any idea about what a healthy sexual relationship can be," Shine said.

"Sex is great, do it as much as you want to but when you're taught to do it in this way it's not healthy," Shine said. "What's sexy about degrading other human beings?"

Stoddard emphasized that the pornography industry was a societal problem and not just a personal decision.

"The girls get blamed as opposed to the culture that teaches them that that is how they will be valued," Stoddard said.

The presentation also discussed the negative impact that pornography has on other ethnicities.

"Multicultural porn just means they're not white," Stoddard said. "Often the portrayal of those in multicultural pornography is stereotypical and racist."

Stoddard went through a few examples pointing out the various stereotypes including Latinos, African Americans and Asians.

"Latinos are viewed as illegal or economically poor," Stoddard said. "While black women are shown in even more degrading ways. They are depicted animalisticly or they'll be shown as ghetto."

"Asians are shown as compliant to the white man's fantasy," Stoddard said

Stoddard began showing the slideshow after having the script and slideshow handed to her.

"It was hard to talk about but it felt like my responsibility," Stoddard said.

Stoddard works in preventative education for youth and she has been an advocate against sexual and domestic violence.

"I would like to be an activist that helps to change a culture," Stoddard said.

"I am often the person putting a band-aid on a bullet wound," Stoddard said, "I would like to prevent the bullet wound."

Burnt food summons Lyndonville Fire Dept.

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.
Critic Editor

Smoke from a cooking mishap in the Poland residence hall called the Lyndonville Fire Department to campus yesterday.

Every time a smoke detector or a fire alarm goes off in the Stonehenge residence hall, the fire department is automatically notified by a system set up at the beginning of the year.

Before the system was put in place, LSC was losing roughly $30,000 per year by paying students to monitor a switchboard at the Public Safety office, George Hacking, director of Public Safety, said.

The system was not put in place solely for cost effectiveness, Hacking said. The Lyndonville Fire Department approved of the system for safety reasons.

"Their biggest fear was a student (working for Public Safety) called to the scene would misdiagnose the danger," Hacking said. By the time the second call came, it might be too late.

Have you seen your grades lately?

By Ben Holbrook
Managing Editor

A proposal to make it mandatory for all professors to submit midterm grades was made during Wednesday night's SGA meeting but was met with fierce opposition.

The proposal, which was brought to the SGA by faculty members, would make it mandatory for all professors to submit midterm grades. As of right now, it is optional for a professor to submit a midterm grade.

Many of the SGA members were opposed to making such a change citing reasons such as, students are responsible for knowing their own grades and the faculty is the ones who should handle this type of issue.

The faculty members who brought up the issue wanted to get the SGA's opinion on the matter since they represent the student body, Jonathan Maciel, SGA president, said.

"I wasn't complaining about how it was decided," Maciel said, "but faculty members and I thought it would pass fine."

The Academic Policy Committee is responsible for handling this type of issue, Maciel said.

Although the initial proposal to make midterm grades mandatory was voted down unanimously, SGA members were open to making adjustments to the proposal such as having grades be posted in Blackboard.

A new proposal was made during the meeting to have professors submit grades in a timely manner, which failed to pass during a vote 18 to 4. One of the main issues with the proposal was that "timely manner" was too open to interpretation and it is possible it wouldn't change the way grades are handled now.

Discussion about the grade resolution was heated which was Maciel was surprised by because, "I didn't think it was going to be a big issue." Maciel doesn't have an issue with the way grades are handled now because, "all of my professors give me my grades."

Each department typically handles the way grades are given, Maciel said.

Although a resolution to make such a change, as this would typically be handled by the school administration, faculty members wanted the SGA's opinion on the matter, Maciel said. Even if SGA approved a resolution to change the grading policy, Donna Dalton, Academic Dean of Student affairs and President Carol Moore would make the final decision.

Roughly 60-65 percent of the professors submit a midterm grade, Maciel said.

Even though the grade resolution didn't pass Maciel wasn't fazed by the outcome. "What's done is done," he said.

New televisions met with mixed feelings at LSC

By Amanda Wozniak
Special to the Critic

Upon entering the ATT lobby you are greeted by a new 65-inch flat panel display. The cost of the screen was $7,876.

"It seems like a big waste of money to me," LSC senior Tim Welsh said. An LSC Junior agreed, "I think that the televisions and banners are a waste of the student's money to make the school look nicer," Kyle St. John said.

A fund established by donors to the college paid approximately $2,800. Wayne Hamilton, Dean of Administration, explained that this fund is to "allow the president to supplement college funds to make improvements to the LSC campus." The remaining balance, about $5,000, was paid by the college equipment fund.

"I think the money could have been better used within the departments," Meghan Cosby said, also an LSC senior.

The ATT lobby is used as a reception and gathering area for many events throughout the year. The large screen will provide a place for them to display presentations. It will provide students and other groups, using the ATT lobby, with education and entertainment, Hamilton said.

Hamilton explained the larger screen is beneficial because it will allow a larger audience to view it at one time. It will also be used as an information kiosk just as the smaller one had. "We hope it will be utilized by student groups, faculty, and staff as well as some of the community groups that use our facilities throughout the year," Hamilton said.

A new Sony flat panel LCD HD television has also replaced the old TV in the Student Center. The cost was about $2,500. The TV was paid for by the SGA out of the General Fund. The money in the General Fund is part of the $94 Student Activity Fee that each student pays. Half of that money goes to the Campus Activities Board; the rest is divided up between the clubs allowing whatever is left over to go into the General Fund.

The decision to purchase the new TV was voted on at a House meeting. There were 22 votes in favor of the TV, only two opposed. Money was also passed to purchase an HD receiver for the TV.

SGA President Jonathan Maciel said, "The student government has always purchased the TV for the Student Center." He added that the TV it replaced "was eight years old." Although the TV still worked, the buttons on the TV were illegible and didn't work well, said Maciel. The screen was also starting to fade in the corners. The SGA plans to donate the old television to the St. Johnsbury Children's Center.

The TV screen in the Student Center is a 52-inches, less than the one in the ATT lobby. "I like the idea of the new TV's but they need to switch them," LSC Junior Eric Sevelovitz.

Photo by Amanda Wozniak

The new flat screen display welcoming students and visitors to the ATT is a welcome site to some and greeted with scorn by others.

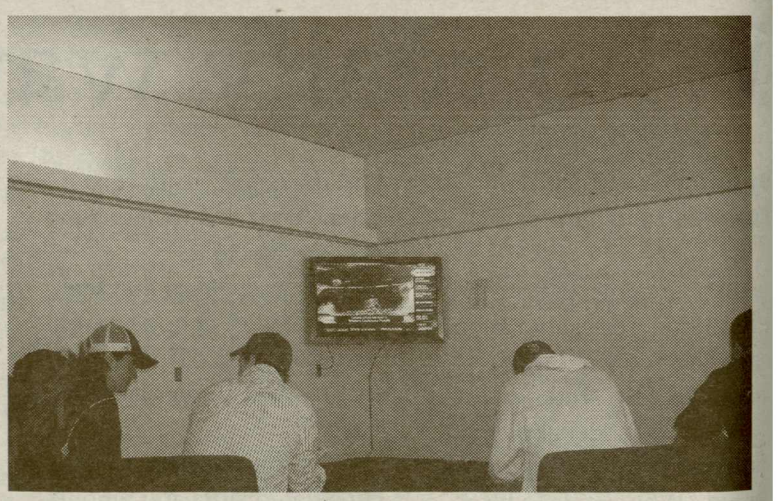

Photo by Ryan Lee

People gather in front of the new LCD HD television in the Student Center. The total cost of this television was $2,500.

Vermont Politics class crashes state capital

By Jennifer Ingram
Critic Staff

There is much that goes into the running of Vermont's politics.

To fully understand how politics are run today, you need a concrete understanding of what happened in the past.

On Thursday, March 27, David Plazek's Vermont Politics class took a trip to the state's capital to meet with the state archivist to learn about the history of Vermont and then to tour the state house.

The class first met with state archivist D. Gregory Sanford, a physically imposing, self-deprecating and witty man with a long, thick white beard. Throughout the meeting with Sanford he described the history of Vermont in terms of politics and described how Vermont has progressed through the centuries. Sanford has been the state's archivist for 25 years.

"The trip to Montpelier was a good educational experience, off campus. The archivist seemed very knowledgeable about all aspects of Vermont," Timothy Carlough said by e-mail.

As part of Sanford's presentation he presented many different types of political documents spanning from the 1700's all the way through the 1900's.

One particular document that he showed was a petition from the 1800's. Men and women couldn't sign the same petition together, and each sex had to sign different documents. "Meeting with the state archivist was very interesting, and seeing all the documents that he had was very fascinating. I wish that we would have had been able to see more of them, and been able to see where they are all kept," Megan Guilck said.

After meeting with the state archivist the class then went to tour the state house to see how the Vermont government is run and to see the different groups in session. The state house was not very guarded for many groups being in session.

"For 2008 I was amazed at how open the access was to the building. There were uniformed security guards patrolling the corridors however," Brent Lyons said by e-mail.

Once inside the State House the class was free to explore the state house and to see what was happening.

"It was interesting to see Vermont State government working first-hand. The House was debating on the State Budget for 2009, specifically the merits of a tax reduction plan for

individual's capital income. It appeared most of the active debate was coming from representatives from the Chittenden County area," Brent Lyons said by e-mail.

Four profs and two other faculty to leave LSC in May

By Joey Stewart
Special to The Critic

LSC will soon be saying farewell to six of its faculty.

A "Faculty Farewell" will be held on May 16 to honor the four retiring professors: David Bradley, William Fingerhut, Metin Yersel, and Rod Zwick.

T. Kelly Rossiter and Jean Hackett are also being honored for their time here.

Rossiter, instructor in the Department of Recreation and Ski Resort Management, said, "There are a variety of reasons why I am leaving LSC, and it was a very difficult decision to make, but I have always considered myself a teacher of adventure, and I guess it is just time to see what adventures are on the horizon. I would have to say, however, that one of the main reasons is that I will be finishing my doctoral degree at UVM."

The absence of these faculty members will leave a gap in the teaching staff.

When asked about the number of positions that need to be filled, the Associate Academic Dean, John Kascenska, said, "We do have a number of searches going on, and there are three new positions opening up, a Developmental Math Coordinator, a Digital Media, and a Business Department position. It is a little unusual that we have this many faculty searches going on at the same time, but I think that that is only because we have added the three new positions."

"We have had a number of retirees each year, and it only makes sense that a number of them happen at the same time, especially considering that many of them were hired around the same time." LSC President Carol Moore said. "The reason that the number looks so big this year is because we decided to hire three more if the budget will allow," Moore said.

"I'm not aware of the numbers, but I know that there are hiring cycles, so it is not that unusual that there would be retiring cycles where more than one person retires at a time," Rossiter said, in response to the unusually large faculty search, "but then again, I don't think that I can count myself as retiring, because I think that retiring has certain connotations, like getting paid afterwards, which I definitely won't be."

"In terms of the bigger picture," Rossiter said, "I think that we are all just ready for different challenges."

Faculty at Lyndon State College make their own decisions about when they are going to retire, and they all have their own reasons for doing so, and the administration at LSC respects each and every one of their decisions, Kascenska said.

Harry Swett thanks LSC students

Good Morning, and a huge Thank You to The Critic, and Catherine Story for the article in the last issue regarding my upcoming retirement. I would just like to thank ALL of the student body, for being who you are, and wish you all the best, as you continue your journey of life. For it is the student body whom have made my job possible, and has made it fun.

Perhaps the two enclosed articles will mean as much to you, as they do to me. Especially the one line in ATTITUDE that "I am convined that life is 10 percent of what happens to me, and 90 percent of how we handle it."

To each and every one of you, may you handle life well, and may you also "SUCCEED". Thank you, God Bless you, and Keep ON Smiling

TO SUCCEED
-Author unknown

"To laugh often and love much, to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children; to earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends; to appreciate beauty, to find the best in others, To give of oneself; to leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, A garden patch, or a redeemed social condition; to have played and laughed with enthusiasm and sung with exultation; to know even one life has breathed easier; this is to have succeeded."

ATTITUDE
-By Charles Swindoll

"The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than education, than money, Than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think, say, or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness, or skill. It will make or break a company.... a church... a home.

The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past...we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude.....

And, so it is with you. We are in charge of our attitudes."

-Harry Swett, Mailroom Director

Monday April 21st

There will be an election forum for SGA candidates

This Forum is for all students to ask SGA candidates questions before voting

It will be held in the Student Center at 7 p.m.

Letter Policy:

The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must include the author's phone number and address. The Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments.
Please send your letters to:
critic@lyndonstate.edu
or
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Reporters: Catherine Story, Ben Holbrook, Gwen Cook, Jennifer Ingram, Joey Stewart

Aviser: Dan Williams
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ROSE SALE

Thursday April 24, 2008
ATT Lobby
10-3pm

One for $2
Dozen for $15

Help Kappa Delta Phi National Affiliated Sorority support the R.O.S.E. Fund.

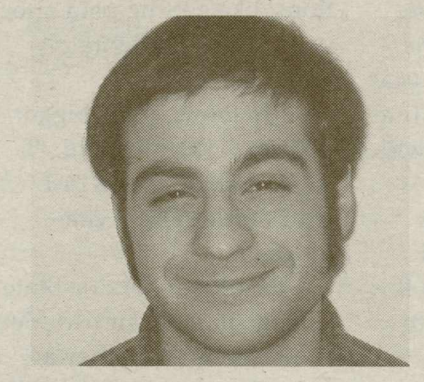
"The R.O.S.E. (Regaining One's Self-Esteem) Fund is a national non-profit organization committed to ending violence against women and their children by assisting women survivors of violence to regain their self-esteem. By helping women to achieve a positive self-esteem, The R.O.S.E. Fund hopes to empower individual women victims to achieve self-sufficiency, rebuild their lives, and ultimately help end violence within society."

Roses available for campus delivery and in the ATT lobby.

***For addition information about this organization please refer to* www.rosefund.org**

Any Questions please contact Carmella.reiger@lyndonstate.edu

Perverts are free to surf the net in peace



Matt Vercillo
Critic Columnist

Here at The Critic, our goal is always to report on the news and issues that concern the student body. Every week there are several meetings where the staff bounces ideas around, and eventually decides what to include in the following issues.

During one of the more productive meetings recently, a familiar concern was brought up.

Based a popular tale of oral folklore that floats around this campus, it dealt with the infamous computer-lab masturbator.

Assuming that most students have heard this rumor at one point or another, it is unnecessary to go into all the sticky intricacies of the story. If not however, the gist is not difficult to deduce from the phrase "computer lab masturbator."

Eventually the conversation evolved to include the broader issue of pornography, and its relationship with the student body.

There were a lot of questions raised about policies, network issues, monitoring or restricting of content, and about specific incidents concerning the student use of pornography on campus.

There are many rumors that flow from the mouths of students and faculty like diarrhea of ignorance. So, honestly hearing stories of masturbation in the computer labs doesn't exactly present itself as something that is likely to be true.

However, it is enough to convince a controversy-starved student newspaper to investigate what the extent of pornography viewing on campus truly is.

What was discovered wasn't exactly the juicy piece of journalistic fluff we had hoped for. Instead, we found ourselves with a boring realization of order and normality. In our imaginations we constructed stories of self-satisfaction and gluttonous overconsumption of perverse materials. Resulting in disciplinary action or scandal.

Most of what was found out simply disproved all of these wild notions.

According to Michael Dente, the Chief Technology Officer here at Lyndon, there hasn't really been too many problems with pornography on campus. "Most students realize that everything is tied to their login."

Although, this doesn't necessarily deter students from looking at pornographic content. Dente acknowledged that in the past, there had been cases of students taking up Z-drive space with pornographic material. Which subsequently had to be removed by IT.

This is the extent of any action that IT will take against the use of pornography. Because this is a university setting, there are no restrictions on what students are allowed to look at.

"We don't actively watch connections, but we can see what's going on." Dente said.

"This is a college, here that type of content could be part of the curriculum for certain classes, and it has been in the past."

Previously most issues have been more about respect and common courtesy than harm done to the computers. In the library for example, there are several public computers that do not require a student password.

There had been issues in the past where, people were asked to stop looking at certain things by the library staff.

According to Garret Nelson, Library Director, the location of the public computers deters most people from doing anything peculiar.

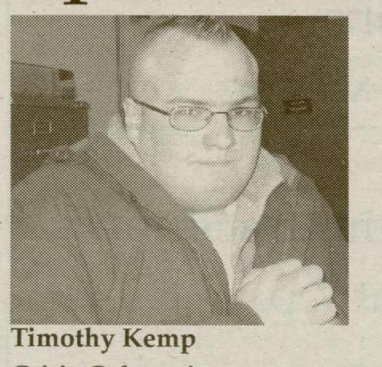
"It is like if you have a computer at home with children. You keep the computer in the living room where you can see it. This is our living room." Nelson said motioning toward the computer stations sitting directly behind him.

So, as expected, another rumor here at LSC has bitten the dust. There was no mention by anybody actually in the know about a lab-masturbator, or any other sexually deviant activity by students in the labs.

Only by a few odd visitors on the public computers, which certainly doesn't qualify as scandal.

So the search for interesting happenings at LSC continues on, with one more dead lead and one less interesting rumor to spread.

Special thanks to "The Nature Boy" Ric Flair



Timothy Kemp
Critic Columnist

It has been a few weeks since I have written an article, but rest a sure I will continue to bring all my readers more coverage on the professional wrestling industry. I hope everyone enjoyed my last column about the LSWF.

When I was writing that article, it just made me happy to know that there are some passionate wrestling fans from this neck of the woods in Vermont.

This week I want to give you my thoughts on one of, if not the greatest wrestler in the history of the business who just ended a thirty-six year career a few weeks ago. Of course I am talking about "Nature Boy" Ric Flair.

A lot of people would say that Hulk Hogan is the greatest of all time, and to be honest, I couldn't agree more. If there is one man that can argue that point, it's Ric Flair.

A record-holding sixteen-time world champion, there is no denying that he is in a class of his own in terms of professional wrestling.

His trademarked one world expression, "WOOO!!" will forever be heard in arenas across the globe in tribute of this extraordinary individual.

Three weeks ago, 74, 635 screaming fans packed the Citrus Bowl in Orlando to witness Flair's last match against Shawn Michaels.

Just 24 hours removed from being inducted into the WWE Hall of Fame, it certainly was an emotional weekend to say the least.

In all honesty, I don't think there has ever been a more emotional time for me as a wrestling fan, even after about 20 years.

As the tears flowed down my face, it was just so great seeing Ric honored for the contributions he made to the wrestling industry.

For any fan out there that likes to put down the WWE a lot for the mistakes that they make, because even the biggest organizations have there share of screw ups, this weekend of tributes was just absolutely phenomenal. The use of the song, "Leave The Memories Alone," by Fuel was great in telling the story of the Nature Boy.

For those of you who have never heard of Ric Flair, I think Shawn Michaels said it best, "Where have you been for the last 30 years, under a rock?"

In every major sport in the world, there is just one individual that is just above the rest. With the likes of Muhammad Ali, Michael Jordan, Babe Ruth and Tiger Woods, there will only be one gold standard in the history of professional wrestling.

While sixteen world titles may have been taken from him, that is one title that he can proudly hold onto forever.

I think I speak for all the wrestling fans around the world when I say thank you Ric Flair. You will never know just how much you truly mean to each and every one of us.

"I am that limozine ridin', jet flyin', kiss stealin', wheelin', dealin', son of a gun that has kissed the girls worldwide, and made 'em cry."

Next Week's Column – My personal thoughts on The Rock, (I mean Dwayne Johnson).

Match of the Week –

This past Monday night on Raw, Mickie James finally defeated "The Glamazon" Beth Phoenix to capture her third Women's Championship.

I think that this was the first women's match that I completely marked out for. This was a great, exhilarating contest.

Help Wanted

EDITOR

The Critic, the voice of Lyndon State College students for more than four decades, seeks a talented leader for the 2008-2009 academic year. The editor is responsible for the day-to-day management of the weekly newspaper and its increasingly important Web site. The successful candidate will be a skilled writer and copy editor, and have a knowledge of newspaper layout, photography, and multimedia. He or she will also oversee a business department responsible for selling ads. To apply, please send a cover letter and resume to The Critic's adviser, Dan Williams (dan.williams@lyndonstate.edu). The deadline is April 25.

LSC alum grooms trails during retirement

Photo By Norman Johnson

By Norman Johnson
Special to The Critic

It's a cold, blue-bird-sky morning, David Dwyer, 62, drives the Mule, a two-seat tracked vehicle used in grooming cross-country trails over frozen brown grass and patches of corn snow on the Bemis Trail below Darling Hill Rd. in Lyndonville. Dwyer and his wife Kathy live up the hill and the trail crosses part of their property.

Dwyer's checking how much snow is left on the trail. Ski season is over and trail maintenance for the bike trails will start in a few weeks. Dwyer has been grooming ski trails for the Kingdom Trails organization since he retired from Lyndon Institute in 2006 after 35 years of teaching and coaching.

He explains the differences in maintaining the trails between winter and summer. "You have to groom smooth and 12 feet wide for the skiers," Dwyer said. "Sometimes they'll complain if there's the slightest little bump. With the bikers, it's 'Bring it on,' rocks, stumps—they don't care. And the trail is only a bike tire wide," Dwyer laughed.

"I came here in 1967," Dwyer said in a hard Rhode Island accent, the "here" sounding like, "he'ya" to the rest of us. "The Vietnam War was on. I was about to be drafted and Lyndon State was on the draft list," Dwyer said, meaning LSC was one of the colleges in the 60s admitting anyone in eminent danger of being drafted.

Then the LSC campus was split between the Burklyn mansion on Darling Hill and the old Vail mansion, where the present campus is. "A friend of mine drove the campus bus," Dwyer said. "The weekend I came to look things over there was a big party with two bands at Lawson's Auction House on Rt. 5." Dwyer said the Northeast Kingdom looked a lot better than being shot at in a rice paddy and he stayed. "I majored in not getting shot," he laughed.

"Politically it was a very liberal place to be, we were what you'd call hippies," Dwyer said. "Kent State [the student shootings] had happened and we all went to Washington to protest. Everyone at the college was from New York, New Jersey, or were locals." He said in the sixties, locals mostly came off the farm.

After Dwyer graduated from LSC with a degree in English, he did volunteer work at Lyndon Institute teaching pre-special-ed reading. "LI was perennially the state championship team," Dwyer said about LI's athletic program.

"Merlyn Corser was physical education coach at the time. Been there forever," Dwyer said. "She said one day, 'You know, you ought to go into coaching.'" Dwyer agreed. He began recruiting kids in the hallways at LI. and eventually worked it into the cross-country program he coached until retiring. "There's a rich history of skiing here," Dwyer said.

"I loved being around kids," Dwyer said. "When I started at LI, I was 23 and most of my students were 17 or 18." Dwyer continued. "I didn't like school much. I went to Catholic school for 12 years and it wasn't a lot of fun," he said.

> "I majored in not getting shot," Dwyer laughed.

At LI, "I got to see the whole spectrum. We had the best and worst skiers in the country, some even went to the Olympics," Dwyer said. "I saw them happy, angry, hurt, or crying." He thought a moment, "I think I talked to more parents over coaching than school. Some kids went to work, and some went to Harvard."

"I don't remember much of an interview process," Dwyer said of being hired by LI. "There wasn't a union. Usually unions are formed out of problems. My contract was one paragraph. That says a lot for LI," Dwyer said.

Some of the best cross-country skiing in the area is on Darling Hill ridge, by the Wildflower Inn. Dwyer skis and grooms, a good combination. He believes in the Kingdom Trail organization, started by mountain bike aficionados, owners and employees in East Burke. The 100 miles of bike trails cross 40-50 private properties, the written agreements granting access to bikers and skiers. "Without them," Dwyer said of the landowners, "Kingdom Trails would be nothing."

Dwyer grinds the Mule up to a small bridge spanning a frozen stream bed and stops. He eyeballs the mound of snow still on the bridge, mentally calculates the bridge supports and says, "I better not." He throws the machine into reverse, turns it around and heads back down the trail.

"Obama," Dwyer exclaims and launches into what the Democratic presidential hopeful was saying this week. Dwyer, at 62, is still very much a child of the 60s.

The Quest for the Kingdom Cup
3 on 3 Basketball Tournament

When: April 23 8 p.m.

Where: Rita Bole/Stannard Gymnasium

Cost: $20 per team up to 4 players

Sign-up April 22 in theatre lobby 11-2 p.m.

LSC sustainability summit has been postponed until the following year

By Ben Holbrook
Managing Editor

Due to scheduling conflicts the sustainability summit has been postponed until next year which may work out better.

The sustainability summit which was planned for earth week this semester had to be postponed because the other VSC schools involved were on vacations during the planned event. The sustainability summit was proposed by Jonathan Maciel, SGA president, because sustainability is becoming an important issue across many campuses, Maciel said. A number of schools have already taken steps to improve their sustainability, Maciel said.

The proposed date for the summit to be held next year would be in late October, which may be more appropriate since the summit won't conflict with other events, Maciel said.

The summit itself would consist of a series of presentations on ways to improve your campuses sustainability and a discussion for participants to talk about ways they think they can improve their campuses. Most of the presentations are already set up even though the event has been postponed.

Having more time to plan the summit will improve the quality of the event and possibly allow for more presentations, Maciel said. Maciel is also hoping that the other Vermont colleges will be able to provide funding to offset the cost of the summit.

Fewer and fewer people lathering up this year before soaking up the rays of the sun

People forgetting that the sun can still burn

By Mary Wheeler
Special to the Critic

For Maria Guzman, wearing sunscreen is hardly a part of her daily routine.

"I don't use sunscreen on a daily basis because I forget too. I only really use it when I'm going to the beach or going on vacation, where I'm really exposed to UVB rays," the 21-year-old New Jersey resident, said. While doctors may frown on this, Guzman is doing something right. "I'm aware of the dangers of the sun, so I don't go to tanning beds, because of the potential risks of skin cancer and premature aging," she said.

Guzman isn't alone. In a 2007 study, conducted by iVillage and The Skin Cancer Foundation, 40 percent of people revealed that they never use sunscreen, with only 11 percent using one with an SPF of 15 or higher on a daily basis.

"I only use sunscreen when I know I'm going to be outside for awhile," Patrick Boyle, 22, of Vermont, said.

According to The Skin Cancer Foundation, the biggest mistakes people make with sunscreen is using too little and not applying it frequently enough. It's recommended to use one ounce, (the equivalent of a shot glass), all over exposed body parts, including the neck, lips, and hands.

"Most people who use an SPF 15 get the protection equivalent to a SPF 5 because they put it on too thinly," Dr. Martin A. Weinstock, a Brown University Professor, and chairman of the American Cancer Society's skin cancer advisor group, said in a statement to MSNBC.

In 2008, approximately 62,000 people will be diagnosed with melanoma, a deadly cancer that starts in the melanocytes skin cells, which contributed to 8,100 deaths in 2007, according to the American Cancer Society.

The most effective way to detect melanoma is to look for changes in skin growths. Melanoma generally starts out as small-mole like growth, but overtime it increases in size and changes colors, according to the American Cancer Society. A fair complexion, family history, and a weak immune system are other contributing factors to this cancer.

With so many products out on the market, how do you know which sunscreen is right for you? Experts say to look for products that contain zinc oxide, titanium dioxide, and are water-resistant. Also choose a sunscreen that has a broad-spectrum label (which protects against both UVA and UVB rays) with an SPF of 15 or higher.

Guzman knows at some point in her life she will start a sunscreen habit, just not now. "I will eventually start using sunscreen, because as you get older, it starts to take an effect on your skin," she says. "If you see someone who spent a lot of time in the sun, you can see how weathered their skin is, and I don't want to look like that. I don't see those effects now, but I know I will in the future."

Boyle on the other hand, isn't concerned about the various warnings made by doctors about the dangers of the sun. "I don't really think I need to wear sunscreen daily, he says. "If I had skin cancer running in my family, I would, but as of now, I don't."

Not looking to hibernate inside this summer? The Mayo Clinic offers some helpful tips to protect yourself this summer:

-Avoid tanning beds and sun lamps: Tanning beds emit UVA rays that studies have shown may be just as, if not more dangerous than UVB rays from the natural sun. UVA rays go deeper into the skin, resulting in a higher chance of getting premature aging, and precancerous skin lesions.

-Avoid being in the direct sunlight for too long: Especially between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. when the sun's rays are the strongest. Think that a cloudy day makes you immune to the sun? Think again. Even on dark or rainy days, you're still absorbing radiation.

-Cover yourself: While this may be difficult in the summer, when possible, wear clothing that covers your arms and legs, as well as a wide-brimmed hat.

How to ward off the horrible glare of the burning sun.

To avoid sunburns, sunscreens should be used if you are outside for more than 20 minutes. You can get sunburn by performing routine activities.

There are many cosmetic products available today that contain sunscreens. Sunscreen used on a regular basis actually allows some repair of damaged skin. The sun's reflective powers are great so therefore 17 percent on sand and 80 percent on snow - don't reserve the use of these products for only sunny summer days.

On a cloudy day 80 percent of the sun's ultraviolet rays pass through the clouds. You should apply sunscreen to dry skin 30 minutes before going outdoors. Lips also get sunburned too, so apply a lip balm that contains sunscreen with SPF 15 or higher. Sunscreens should be applied in the morning and reapplied after swimming or perspiring heavily.

Information taken from http://www.melanomafoundation.org/prevention/facts.htm

Moving to be more environmentally conscious at LSC

A greener community thanks to Kurt Heinchon and many, many others at LSC

By Jennifer Ingram
Critic Staff

Kurt Heinchon was angry. It all started in the fall of 2002 when he was going out for football practice and he saw that he field hockey girls had left trash on their field right next to a trash can. He then realized that people need to understand what their actions cause. That is when he decided that he wanted to take an active role in the environment and study Environmental Studies.

Lyndon State is moving toward being a more environmental conscientious facility by becoming a greener facility and Heinchon is one of the many people that is taking an active role in making, not just Lyndon State, but the community that he lives in more environmentally responsible.

Heinchon is involved in many activities on and off campus that focus on making the world more aware of the benefits of going green. Heinchon is actively involved in the Newark After School Program where, on Wednesdays, he teaches an Environmental club to a group of elementary students. "I believe that it is very important that people are taught that their action have an impact on the world that they live in," Heinchon, the president of the Students for Campus Conservation (SCC) said.

On April 23rd, the SCC is featuring "LSC Get Trashed", another effort to increase recycling and making people more aware. As part of "LSC Get Trashed" there will be student volunteers that will sort through all of the trash that LSC has produced and then separate the trash into the separate recycling containers.

In addition, Heinchon is a member of the Lyndon State Advisory Committee on Sustainability which promotes the reduction and recycling of materials purchased and consumed on the LSC campus. The committee is composed of students, staff, and faculty from the college.

Another large project that he is working on is putting a database together which covers the amount on energy, recycling, and compositing that Lyndon uses and produces.

When asked why he became so interested in Environmental Studies his response was that

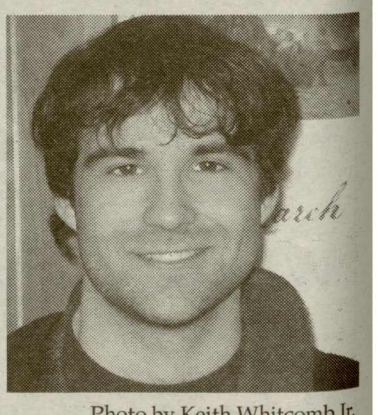


Photo by Keith Whitcomb Jr.

in the next couple of years, Heinchon hopes to see Lyndon State have more student involvement with environmental concerns, and he would like to see Lyndon have a Sustainability Coordinator so that Lyndon can keep moving forward. "There are lots of people that are involved in making Lyndon State a greener facility but there is a lot to it and people can get very overwhelmed when they do it by themselves," Heinchon said.

Heinchon plans on graduating in the spring of 2009 with an Environmental Science degree and one day hopes to be a Sustainability Coordinator.

Fun Page

"We try hard every day to offend people. Every day, and for nothing! I'm sure we could print those words you can't say on television and nobody would say sh-" **-Disgruntled member of the Critic**

Celebrity Crossword Match

I	A	Z	T	I	K	W	E	Z	Q	C	B	A	P	V	M	Y	N	M	J	G	F	I	O	Q
A	H	Z	T	J	S	Y	H	G	I	P	T	M	N	W	Z	E	X	Z	E	I	I	N	I	F
Y	A	Z	I	A	E	U	Q	G	Z	A	P	O	N	N	K	C	T	R	N	O	A	D	W	R
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W	C	R	W	J	W	J	K	I	L	W	A	S	I	B	R	M	O	F	A	T	Y	Z	J	T

In this puzzle you will find out about the world the stars

Jack Black William H Macy Jack White Robert Patrick Ron Perlman
Gerard Depardieu Johnny Depp Morgan Freeman Chris Rock Dustin Hoffman
John Malkovich Brad Pitt Sean Astin Tea Leoni Kristin Stewart

SUDOKU SMACKDOWN!

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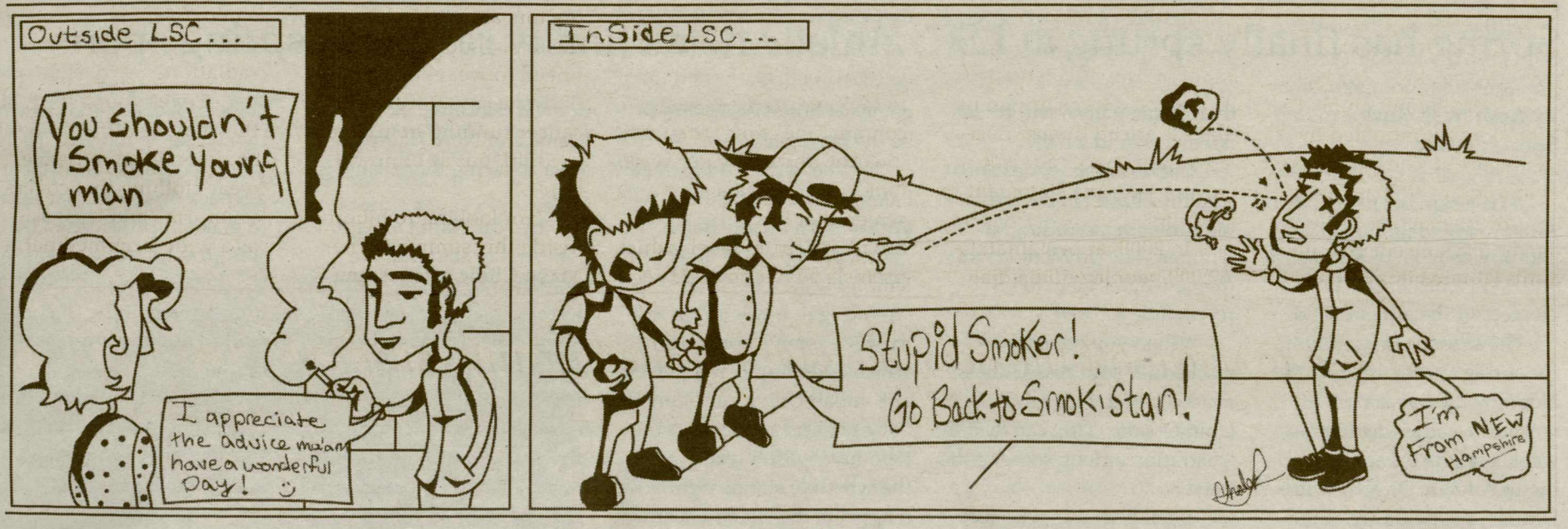
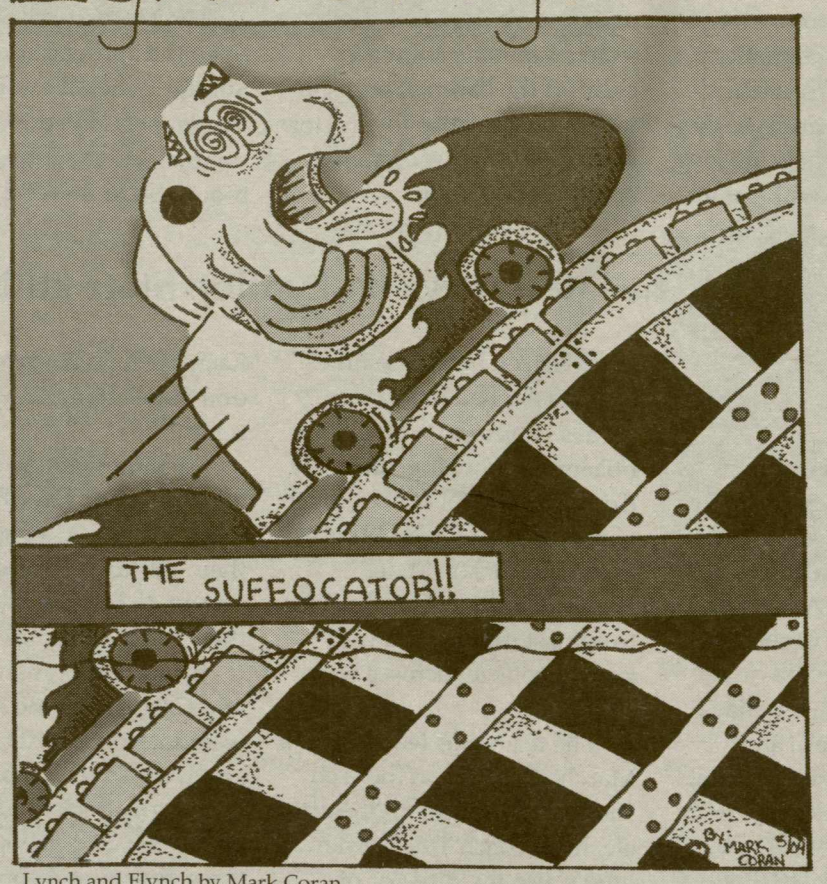
Puzzle generated with Java Sudoku Version 1.0.1, released under the General Public License by Samantha Yen. Kudos to Dan Brook for finding it!

Smoker's Pen By Charles Lockwood



Lynch & Flynch



Lynch and Flynch by Mark Coran

Last Issue's Answers:

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9	1	8	6	4	7	5	2	3
3	7	4	5	2	1	9	8	6
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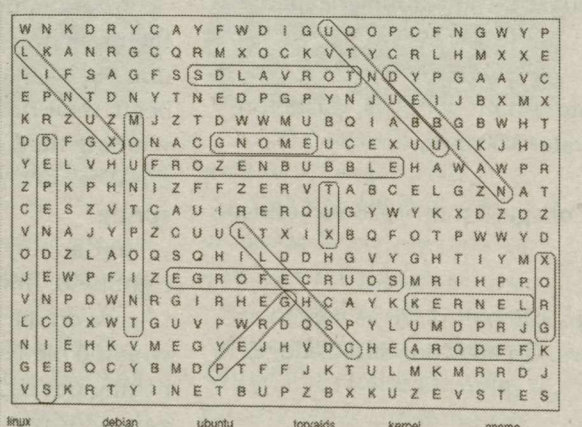

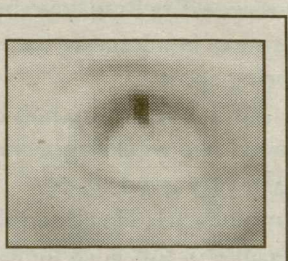

I PUSH MY FINGERS INTO MY EYYYYYYYYYYYYYES!

It's the only thing that slowly stops the aaaaaaaache.
-OLoF

PS: If you think this box is so offensively large, please consider costs and budgeting that goes in to making this page.

Thank You.

I'm going to try to put the answers of this week's two (yes, count them. TWO) puzzles in next week's Fun Page. Are you happy the Sudoku is back? No, you are selfish and are still angry at me because I haven't given you horoscopes to live your little lives by in months. Sorry, I'm a busy man!

Personal trainers ease stress of exercise

By Gwen Cook
Critic Staff

Getting in shape doesn't have to be a hard and strenuous chore, especially at LSC.

Andrew Longley, an exercise science major and personal trainer at LSC, says, "Doing 30 minutes of physical activity a day is recommended by the surgeon general. I can't really recommend exercises for a general population; personal training is individualized for every client's goal, needs, and medical history."

Having a personal trainer can be a huge advantage in getting into shape quicker and with better results. Longley says, "We help accomplish any goal that a client might have that deals with their physical well-being. The personal trainer uses guidelines and techniques learned from the NSCA (National Strength and Conditioning Association) to help a client achieve those goals."

If a person wants to work on developing lean muscle and toning down, they would have to have a different routine than a person who wants to gain muscle weight and "bulk up."

Working out alone can still be effective if you remember to stay on top of your routine. Longley says, "If a person runs or walks multiple times per week and lifts weights two to three times properly per week, then going it alone works fine."

If making time in the day to fit in 30 minutes of physical activity proves impossible, try changing up your routine. Park your car father away in the parking lot, be intentionally late for class so you can run or power walk, or forgo the elevator and use the stairs instead. These seemingly small things do add up.

Exercise is good for school crunch time or getting over arguments. "Exercise is thought to reduce stress, anxiety, and is even thought to improve your cognitive abilities, Longley says, "I've personally always used exercise when I'm extremely stressed out about something, and have found it puts me in a much better mood."

People can sign up for personal training even if they don't see themselves doing it all semester. Longley says, "The ultimate goal is for you to, in 4-6 weeks, to be set enough in a routine to be able to exercise by yourself." Sign up is available at the front desk in the gym.

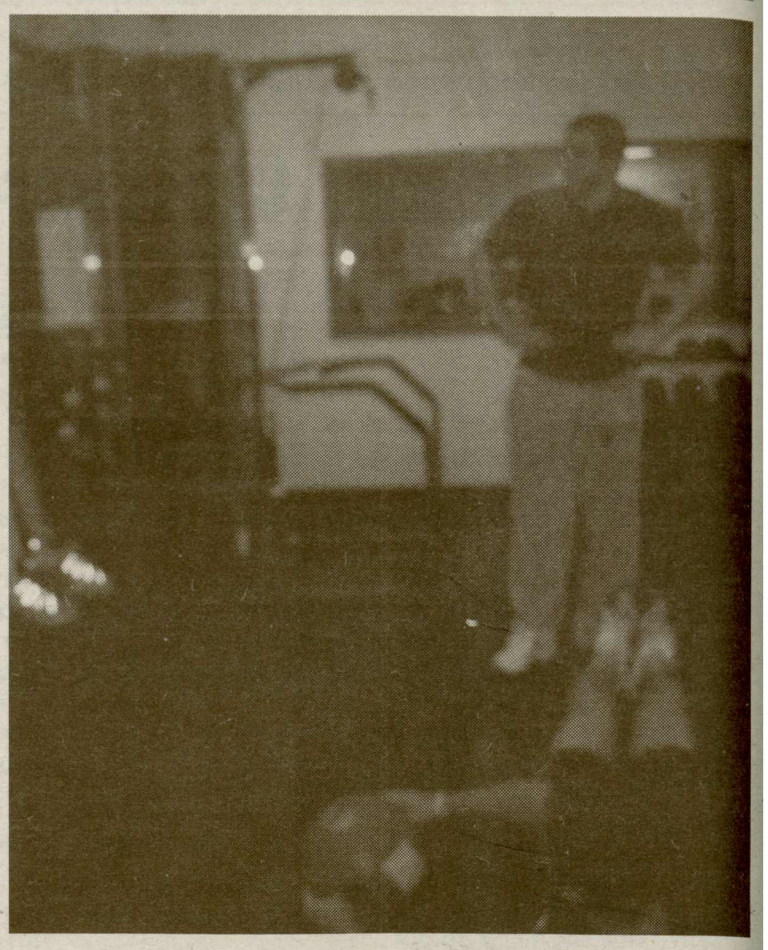

Photo by Gwen Cook
Personal trainer Andrew Longley looks on as a pair of his clients work out in the fitness center.

Spring has finally sprung at LSC: athletic fields finally ready for spring sports

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

A true sign of spring has finally arrived on the LSC campus, as most of this year's snow pack has finally been cleared off the athletic fields.

The school's preparation for spring sports was greatly aided by the late arrival of warmer weather during last week's spring break. According to Athletic Director Chris Ummer, the fields are about two weeks behind schedule in terms of being ready for spring sports.

"If this warm-up had happened two weeks ago, we'd be in very good shape," Ummer said. He added that because of this later-than-normal warm-up, all four spring sports will have to play all their home games within the next week and a half.

Rescheduling games and locations hasn't been such a big problem, according to Ummer. The problem is when the new dates have to be rescheduled.

"When you have to reschedule your reschedules, *that's* when things get tricky," Ummer said. That can lead to frustration among some of the players.

"It's the seniors who feel the frustration (of being unable to play) the most," Ummer said.

One sport that has had a particularly rough time scheduling home games is lacrosse. Ummer said that finding 12 games for the teams was relatively easy. Getting enough of those games at home is proving to be the hard part.

"It's been difficult to get a balanced home schedule. We've had a couple home games played elsewhere," Ummer said. One such "home" game was supposed to be the team's home opener, which ended up being played at Kimball Union Academy in New Hampshire because the field here wasn't ready. As the schedule stands right now, it appears the lacrosse team will only have two home games this season.

Lyndon State isn't the only school here in Vermont that's facing this type of situation. Schools such as Norwich, Green Mountain College, Vermont Tech and others are also having problems with games being postponed, cancelled, or even relocated. Schools in Maine and New Hampshire are also facing those same issues.

Physical Plant Director Tom Archer said that the maintenance department has done everything it can to prepare the fields given the circumstances. One problem the department has faced is that because the snow came early this year, the ground didn't have a chance to freeze.

"That's a bad thing because you can't put heavy equipment on the field," Archer said. He added that maintenance had hired help from an outside source to clear off the baseball and softball diamonds, but the tractor that was being used ran into a couple of problems.

First, a part on the machine broke, and took nearly two weeks to replace. Then, when the tractor was able to get back on the field, it started to make impressions in the soft ground. Archer said that the person was told to get off immediately if the tractor started making impressions on the field.

Archer says that it would be great to get artificial turf for the fields, but money would be the only issue.

"Who knows where you can find the funding, but it would be in the dream to get artificial turf," Archer said.

The Hornets will look to open the spring season on Sunday, when the softball team is scheduled to play a doubleheader against Plymouth State, starting at 1 p.m.

Upcoming Events

Baseball: 4/22, doubleheader vs. Castleton State, 2 p.m. 4/25, doubleheader vs. UMaine-Farmington, 1 p.m. 4/29 vs Plattsburgh State (9 inning game), 3:30 p.m. 4/30, doubleheader vs. St. Michael's, 3 p.m.

Softball: 4/20 vs. Plymouth State, 1 p.m . 4/23 vs. Castleton State, 3 p.m. 4/24 vs. Johnson State, 3:30 p.m.

Lacrosse: 4/26 vs. St. Joseph's College, 1 p.m. 4/28 vs. Johnson State, 4 p.m.

Men's Tennis: 4/22 vs. Norwich, 3:30 p.m. 4/26 vs. Green Mountain College, 1 p.m. 4/27 vs. Green Mountain College, 10 a.m.

Notes: Baseball and softball games are held at the Darrell "Skip" Pound Baseball and Softball Fields. All softball games are doubleheaders. Lacrosse games are played on the soccer field. Tennis meets are held at the tennis courts next to the Alumni House. Game times and locations are subject to change.

What's the buzz? The latest news on Lyndon State athletics

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

After many disruptions to their schedules, a pair of Lyndon State seniors were able to begin their final seasons by winning the first Athlete of the Week awards of the spring.

Jordan Royer, who plays right field, first base and pitches on the baseball team, won the men's award after belting out eight hits in two games. Royer has driven in 13 runs so far this season and is hitting .351. He has yet to make an error in the field this season.

Ashlea Bourdon won the women's award after striking out fourteen batters in nine innings pitched over two games. Bourdon was able to bolster her pitching efforts by driving in a total of six runs in games against Green Mountain and Johnson State.

The lacrosse team was featured last month on a well-known college lacrosse web site.

The team was featured in a March 22 article on the web site Laxnews.com. In the article, head coach Tim Tierney, who's also the director of Kingdom Trails, discussed how the biggest challenge his team faced in preparing for this season was getting onto a field when there was still snow on the ground.

Lacrosse has returned to Lyndon State after a 23-year absence.

Sticking with lacrosse, the team seems to have hit a rough patch. After splitting their first two games of the season, the Hornets have lost their last four games.

Junior attack man and captain Craig Salvagno leads the team in scoring with 10 goals and five assists, followed by freshman attack man Scott Scott with nine goals and three assists, and sophomore midfielder Christ Mansour with six goals and four assists. Individual scoring in lacrosse is the same as hockey, where goals and assists are each worth one point.

THE CRITIC

Serving the student voice of Lyndon State College

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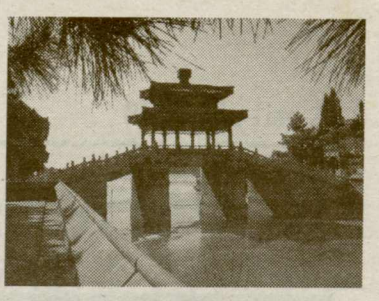
Lynconville, Vt. www.lyndonstate.edu/critic Friday, April 25, 2008 Volume 54, Number 20



Travel columnist Avery Williams went to China and lived to tell the tale. Pg. 6

LSC faces at least $.5 million deficit

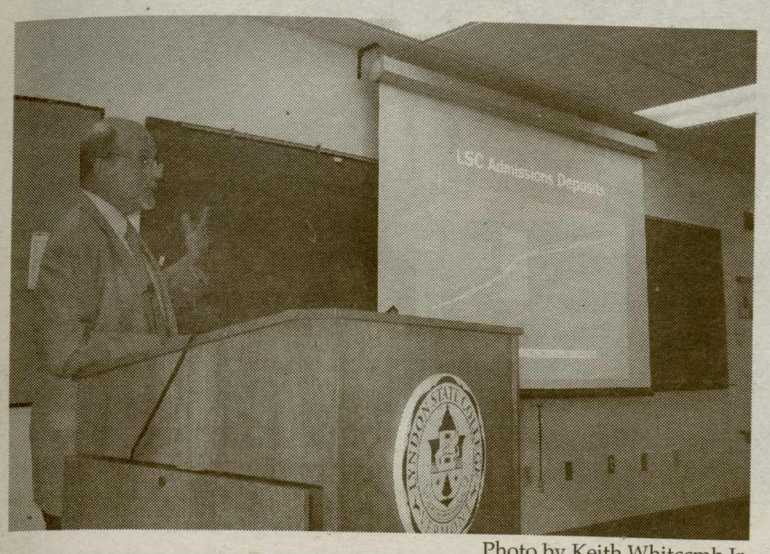


Photo by Keith Whitccmb Jr.

Above: Dean of Administration Wayne Hamilton explains a slide showing a slump in admissions deposits. "If the admissions folks have any requests in the next few weeks, we should give that top priority," Hamilton said.

The reasons for the deficit include high energy costs, lack of state funding, and the recent change in the VSC's budget structure, among other things. "This isn't a matter of being able to point at one single thing and saying 'that's the key factor,'" Hamilton said.

Beow: LSC President Carol Moore perpares to address gathered facultyand staff.

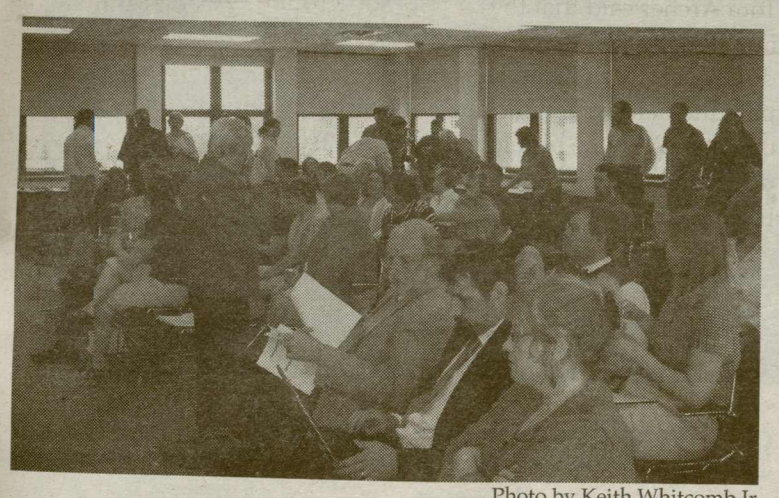


Photo by Keith Whitcomb Jr.

By Ben Holbrook
Managing Editor

Lyndon State College is feeling the pinch this year as they try to balance a budget that has them in the red.

During an informational session last Monday, LSC president Carol Moore discussed the problems LSC is facing this year with the significant deficit. This year the school is facing a debt that is between $500,000 and $900,000.

Wayne Hamilton, dean of Administration, discussed the deficit more in depth over the course of the meeting. Although such a deficit can pose a serious challenge for the school, "it's not unusual to show a first- cut deficit," Hamilton said. A large portion of LSC's funding is generated from student tuition and fees and the enrollment for the fall of 2008, "is not looking as promising and we are a bit concerned about that," Hamilton said.

LSC is not the only college experiencing issues with their budgets this year. All of the other colleges in the VSC are also facing debts in large part due to a lack of funding from the state. Even though each college is facing the same deficit issues, it is still up to the individual college to adjust their budgets accordingly, Moore said.

Moore, who is not unaccustomed to dealing with a deficit, was challenged during her first year at LSC when the school was in the red $800,000. During that time, Moore was forced to let staff members go in order to submit a balanced budget on time. Even with a significant deficit this year, "we're not asking people to leave their position," Moore said.

In order to balance the budget, cuts will most likely be made from the equipment budget, Moore said. The problem with cutting money from the equipment budget is that the television studies and meteorology programs need to update their equipment every few years, Moore said.

If there was an emergency situation where the college experienced a significant drop in the enrollment for the semester then there are emergency funds that can be acquired, Moore said.

The presidents of each college meet with the Chancellor on a monthly basis to discuss concerns and other business, Moore said.

The new building plans will still be going into effect and the money spent on the project does not affect the deficit since the students have already paid for the building, Hamilton said.

"Legally we can use that money (new building fund) for any legitimate reason," Hamilton said. The money however will still be used to construct the new building, Hamilton said.

One of the issues behind the deficit that has been a problem for a number of years at LSC deals with retention rates. Since LSC is funded in large part from the tuition fees, the school must maintain solid retention rates from semester to semester to keep from facing a deficit like this year's. In order to address this issue a student success task force was assembled to find ways to keep students at LSC. In the future, LSC would also like to initiate a program called Project Compass that would market to students from modest financial backgrounds.

LSC must submit a balanced budget by May 14 but, "We don't know where admissions will land until September," Moore said.

Lyndon State deficit continued on page 2.

Student Government elections held

By Keih Whitcomb Jr.
Critic Iditor

Ony four people made it on the Student Government Association's ballot for the four executive board positions open for the fall 2008 semester.

Elections closed yesterday at 5:00 p.m., leaving each candidate until 4:00 p.m. today to accept their nomination and make it official.

So far, Tim Cappalli, vice president, and Nathan Carter, secretary, are the only two to have accepted, leaving Andrew Chapin to accept the presidency and Liane Carson to accept the position of treasurer.

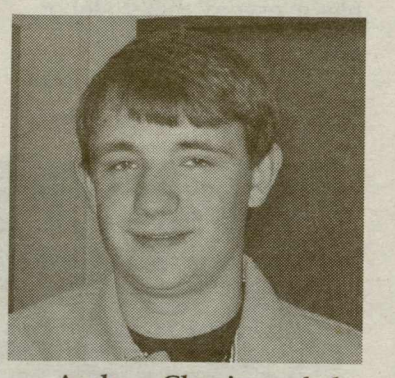
While there were many write-in candidates for the various executive board positions, only Christopher Arsenault gained a significant amount of write-in votes for the presidency with 43 votes to Chapin's 135.

The highest amount of votes out of all the candidates was secretary Nathan Carter with 177 votes.

Last Monday an open forum was held in the Student Center, moderated by Brian Shaw.

Three LSC students, including current SGA president Jon Maciel and one member of The Critic attended.

The voter turnout for the SGA executive board elections was better this year than normal, Kate Murphy, SGA adviser, said. Nearly 200 votes in total were cast.



Andrew Chapin, on ballot for SGA president, has yet to accept presidency.

Chapin has spent one year as the First-Year Senator sitting in at House meetings.

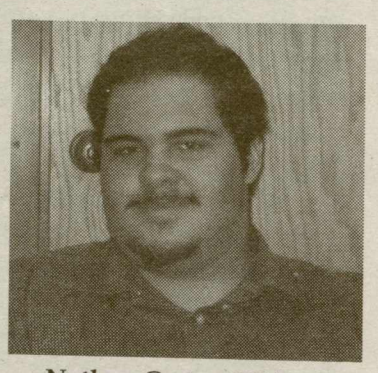
One of the goals Chapin has, assuming he accepts his presidency, is bringing the SGA back into prominence.

Holding regular town meeting style forums for students to attend and discuss issues is an idea he and the other potential SGA executives have discussed.

Tim Cappalli, SGA vice president for fall 2008.

Cappalli has been sitting as House Representative for LSNPA since the fall semester. Aside from holding the regular open forums, Cappalli would like House meetings to run smoother and more efficiently than they have in the past.

"If they're long just because people are arguing, then that's a problem," Cappalli said.



Nathan Carter, SGA secretary for fall 2008.

Carter helped out the Adolescent Drug and Alcohol Prevention Tools (ADAPT) program in his high school by typing memos and keeping records for his four years there.

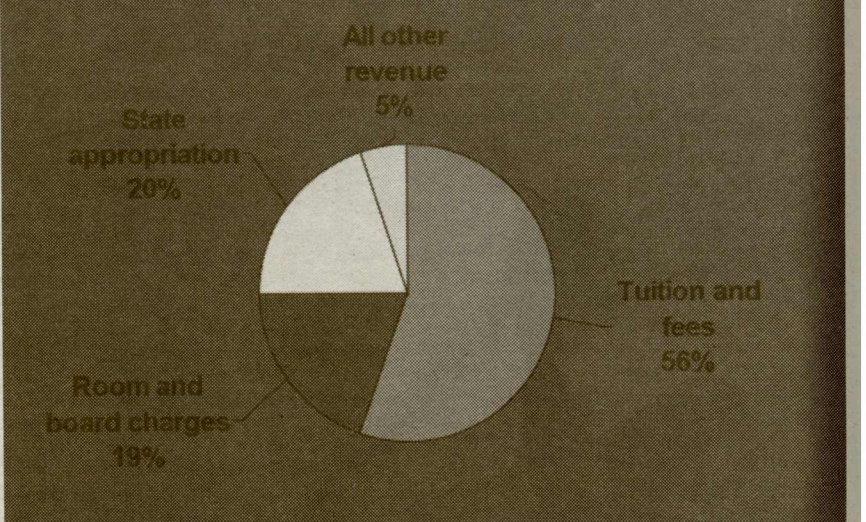
Carter would like to see easier online forum use for LSC students. He feels that the forums on Blackboard aren't easy enough to use and are underutilized.

Revenues and factors for the 2008-2009 school year

BUDGET BALANCING PROPOSAL FOR FY 2009

1	Reduce P/T faculty hiring	$ 75,000
2	Do not fill F/T faculty vacancy in Meteorology	$ 60,000
3	Do not fill staff vacancies due to retirements	$ 70,000
4	Reduce student payroll (direct hire)	$ 100,000
5	Reduce equipment	$ 100,000
6	Reduce supplies/services	$ 60,000
7	Reduce travel	$ 28,000
	Subtotal - level 1	**$ 493,000**
8	Additional equipment reduction	$ 60,000
9	Do not fill Assoc. Dean for Student Affairs vacancy	$ 75,000
10	Fund Student Success Specialist from restricted gift	$ 50,000
11	Do not fill F/T faculty vacancies	$ 180,000
12	Do not fill custodian vacancy	$ 40,000
	Total	**$ 898,000**

Unrestricted Revenues FY 2009



Charts courtesy of Wayne Hamilton

Key Factors

- State appropriation increase expected to be zero to 1.5%
- Tuition/fee increase expected to be 4% to 6%
- Salary and benefit increases will total 8.5% to 9.0%
- Energy costs expected to rise by approximately 50%
- Change in VSC budget model will increase LSC's support cost by approximately 13%

Lyndon state deficit

Continued from page 1

The above budget proposal is a fluid one, Donna Dalton, dean of Academic and Student Affairs said. The list was not made as an order of priority and is expected to change some.

If the deficit proves to be closer to the $900 million range, students may see courses with low (as in one to two) stuents enrolled in them cancelled.

"It's more important to me that we offer what's needed to graduate," Dalton said, citing the fact that the school does not receive extra money from students who are taking between 12 and 18 credits.

A student with 18 credit hours pays the same for them as a student taking 12.

Some positions that have recently opened up at LSC may also go unfilled, or the offers may be delayed until the college is in a better financial posiiton.

Bourque represents Lyndon State College in the Biggest Loser

By Catherine Story
Critic Staff

Virginia "Ginnie" Bourque a 2002 LSC alumni was severely overweight when she signed up for NBC's reality show The Biggest Loser.

"There was an open casting call in Boston and I happened to have the day off," Bourque said.

Bourque weighed 277 lbs when she started the program and she lost 114 lbs.

"It's not just what you eat but how you eat," Bourque said.

Bourque worked the night shift as a news producer and she often skipped breakfast, had a snack from the vending machines at night and then went home and gorged herself on take-out or fast food.

"A lot of people stop at McDonalds occasionally," Bourque said. "For me it was a five times a week occasion."

Students and staff came to the event with questions focused on how to lose weight

"I don't call it a diet because it's more of a lifestyle than a diet," Bourque said.

and what Bourque had learned while on the show.

"College is hard," Bourque said. "Keep whatever you can in your fridge to minimize what you grab in the dining hall."

Bourque gave students advice about what to avoid when they slide their meal card.

"Most salad bars have the full fat dressings," Bourque said. "If you keep lemon juice or other low fat toppings in your fridge you can avoid those extra calories."

Bourque also encouraged the group to snack often but on healthy foods.

"If you eat five cups of fruit and five cups of vegetables everyday that's a lot of food," Bourque said.

"In the first biggest loser book there are lots of snacks that you can carry around with you," Bourque said. Bourque emphasized holding your hunger back until you can find something healthy with nuts, raisins and other healthy nibbles.

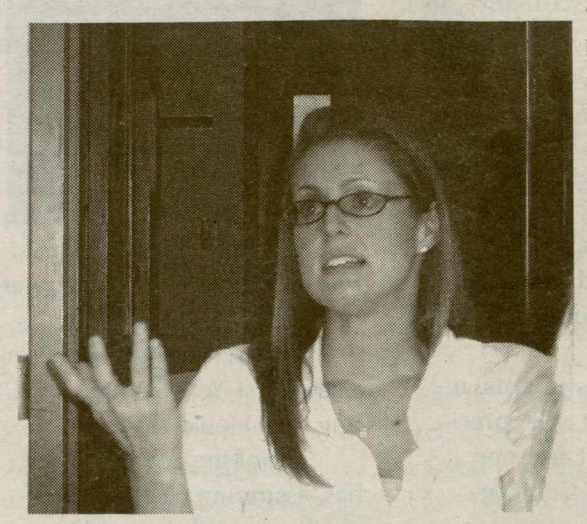


Photo by Catherine Story

Bourque also emphasized squeezing exercise into a busy college schedule.

"When I first finished the show I didn't think it was worth exercising if I didn't have a solid hour and a half to dedicate to it," Bourque said. "Now I've realized that even if it's just 15 or 30 minutes it's worth taking a walk, every little bit helps."

There is a difference between starving yourself and trying to lose weight.

"If you don't eat enough your body is going to store more," Bourque said. "Breakfast is important because it jump starts your metabolism."

"If you only eat one meal a day your body will start storing," Bourque said.

Bourque's lifestyle has changed since her time on The Biggest Loser.

"Understanding what you're putting in your body is the most helpful," Bourque said. "I spent hours in the super market looking up the calories of food when I began my lifestyle change."

Bourque still keeps a food journal about what she eats each day.

"I don't like calling it a diet because it's more of a lifestyle than a diet," Bourque said.

Not everyone is perfect when it comes to dieting.

"I went a little crazy with sundaes last summer," Bourque said. "That's why I'm up about 10 lbs."

Life after reality television hasn't been that different for Bourque.

Holy Sheet

Anal sex

There are a number of different types of sex. The basic penis/vagina penetration, oral sex, foot sex, and others, which includes butt sex. When I say butt sex I am talking, in this case, about it in a heterosexual relationship. Anal sex is normally a hush-hush topic that draws stares when mentioned, but in my conversations with people about it in the last few weeks I had mixed reviews.

"I know it became popular in America because church girls wanted to have sex, but didn't want to break their chastity vows," a friend of mine said. "So they only had one alternative…" I won't finish what he said because it got a little graphic, even for me.

The females that I talked to about anal sex seemed a little more timid to speak on the subject but I did find a few things out. When I asked one girl, she was quick to shake her head in disgust. She said, "It's gross. It's a one way chute." Another girl was a little more understanding of anal sex but admitted she would need to really trust the person in order to do it.

Another one of my guy friends said the reason he didn't want to have anal sex was because of his fear of fecal matter after sex, like on his bed or worse, on his penis. Someone else mentioned that they felt it was immoral while others just said, "no way."

I think all together anal sex has a bad rep and that is why most people are quick to talk badly about it. I did talk to several individuals, both male and female who have had anal sex and many of them enjoyed the act. I am not, in any way, saying that you should try anal sex or talk freely about it, I just wish for people to stop judging others because of their sexual needs and/or fantasies.

Position of the Week- Flying doggie

Cooking with Cook in the spring

I love spring. Everything warms up and I start thinking about eating healthy and getting back in shape. I always crave light salads and fresh fruit.

I also heard from one of my friends that pineapple is one of the healthiest fruits to eat so of course I had to Google it. I was sent to this website http://www.all-creatures.org/health/pineapple.html where a Ms. Monique N. Gilbert, B.Sc. wrote some information about pineapple. Apparently it's much better than even my friend imagined.

She said, "The body uses vitamin C to help metabolize fats and cholesterol, absorb iron, and synthesize amino acids and collagen. Collagen is one of the primary building blocks of skin, cartilage and bones. Vitamin C also decreases the severity of colds and infections."

Here are two of my favorites that I made.

Sweet and Sour Chicken

Ingredients:

1 pound of chicken breast (chopped)
1 can of maraschino cherries (drained)
1 can of pineapple chunks (drained)
1-2 jars of sweet and sour sauce
1 green pepper (cleaned and sliced)
1 small onion (sliced)
2 cups of instant rice
2 tbsp. vegetable oil

Preparation:

Get large skillet and cook chicken in vegetable oil until it's no longer pink. In another pan cook the rice in water according to the directions on the package, this typically takes about 5-10 minutes. After that's done, drain and add butter and salt to taste. Heading back to the chicken you need to add the pepper and onions to the chicken and cook them for about 5 minutes or until the peppers and onions get soft. Add the pineapple, cherries, and both jars of sweet and sour sauce. Serve the chicken mixture over the rice.

Fruit Salad

Ingredients:

1 can of tropical fruit cocktail w/pineapple (drained)
1 cup of mini marshmallows
1-2 cups cool whip

Preparation:

Combine cocktail, marshmallows, and cool whip in a large bowl.

Letter to the Editor: Heather Poginy writes to students about the cost of the large television in the theater lobby.

For the past three years, I've paid well over $12,000 per year to attend this college. Also, I've been an active participant in the school's annual Phone-a-thon, in which hired students call Alumni to ask for money to help with a number of the school's expenses including repairs for campus buildings, academic supplies, and sending faculty to gain the experiences they need to successfully teach their students. These are the main reasons I'm upset with how this school gains and spends its money.

This last month, directly in the Alexander Twilight Theatre Lobby stands a brand new 65-inch television. Strategic placing? I believe so. In the April 17th article written by Amanda Wozniak in The Critic, she quoted a junior here at the college who thought the new television placed in the college's student center (the most expensive 52 inches I've ever heard of) should be switched with the television in the theatre lobby. The college could never switch the two televisions, and here's why: In order to lure students into this college, they (whoever "they" are) are trying to make the school look as fantastic as they can. They bait and literally tackle them to the ground when they receive their tuition bill.

Even if I had five hands, I couldn't count on each of my fingers how many students I've known to leave this school once they've begun to see the inside quirks and how the school uses them strictly for financial benefits. If the school is so worried about retention rates, why, in the past three years, have I not seen any changes? Just in the beginning of this school year, in the Fall of 2007, the school deliberately over-booked the residence halls, knowing that eventually students would drop out, but not before their tuition was due, leaving no room for a refund. As soon as that money was in their pocket, they could've cared less who stayed and who didn't.

Also, in terms of retention, the school claims that they believe students of all academic and financial backgrounds should be able to attend college. However, if they are so concerned with retention, why aren't they more selective with who they accept to attend Lyndon? I can see it now, people in the Admissions office saying, "Oh, sure! You failed Algebra I three times, we'll let you in, but we know you won't stay long. That'll be $27,000 please!"

Now, as the Phone-a-thon Student Manager, when I saw how much they spent on that television, I was appalled. No other students but my fellow Phone-a-thon callers understand how difficult it is to pry nearly $8000 out of our Alumni. It takes a whole lot of persistence, patience, and dedication to this school to even participate in these fund-raising efforts. According to Lyndon State's budget, only 18% of the money we receive is from the state itself. If this is the case, then why are we spending that money on such frivolous things? I'd love for the Lyndon State Alumni to know that their hard-earned money was going to a big, flashy television that will serve absolutely no educational purpose for the students at this college.

Here's a bit of advice to the incoming class of 2009: If you don't judge a book by its cover, don't judge a college by its cover. Don't let the flashy television in the entrance of the school fool you. They really know how to pull the wool over your eyes.

Sincerely,
-Heather Poginy

For a review of the play visit us online at www/lyndonstate.edu/critic

Letter Policy:

The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must include the author's phone number and address. The Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:
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Letter to the Editor: Faculty stand up and be heard

I read with interest the article entitled "Have you seen your grades lately?" in the April 18, 2008, edition of the Critic. Managing Editor Ben Holbrook reported that SGA President Jonathan Maciel had petitioned the Student Government Association to support mandatory mid-term progress reports ("mid-term grades"). He did so at the request of anonymous LSC faculty members who "wanted to get SGA's opinion on the matter." Mr. Maciel stated that "faculty members and I thought it would pass fine," but instead the proposal generated a heated debate and two overwhelmingly negative votes.

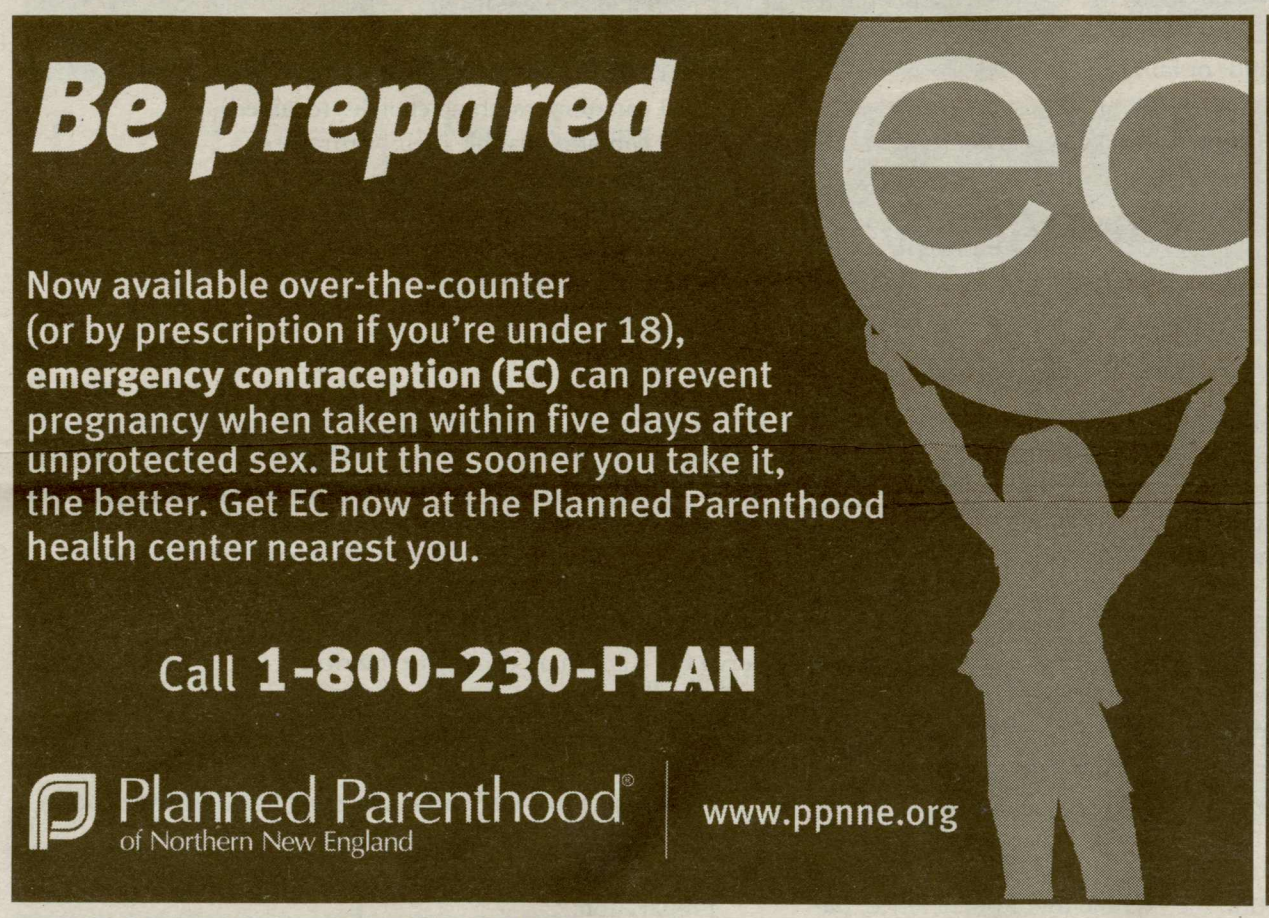
These anonymous faculty members must know that most of their colleagues support the voluntary procedure that is in place: I do. They must know that a few more of their colleagues believe that mid-term reporting in any form infantilizes college students and discourages meaningful student-faculty discussions. (My personal feelings aren't that strong.) And of course they must know that those who support a mandatory procedure are in the minority.

So I suspect that this strange episode was not an attempt to poll student opinion; it was an attempt to manipulate student opinion to influence faculty policy. Had the SGA voted to support the proposal, majority support for a voluntary procedure could then be portrayed as "anti student."

Evaluating student learning is one of the most difficult and deeply personal aspects of a teacher's work. Reporting on it is one of the most delicate. I applaud the SGA for understanding this and for voting accordingly.

Sincerely,

Timothy Miles Sturm, Ph. D.
Professor of Special Education

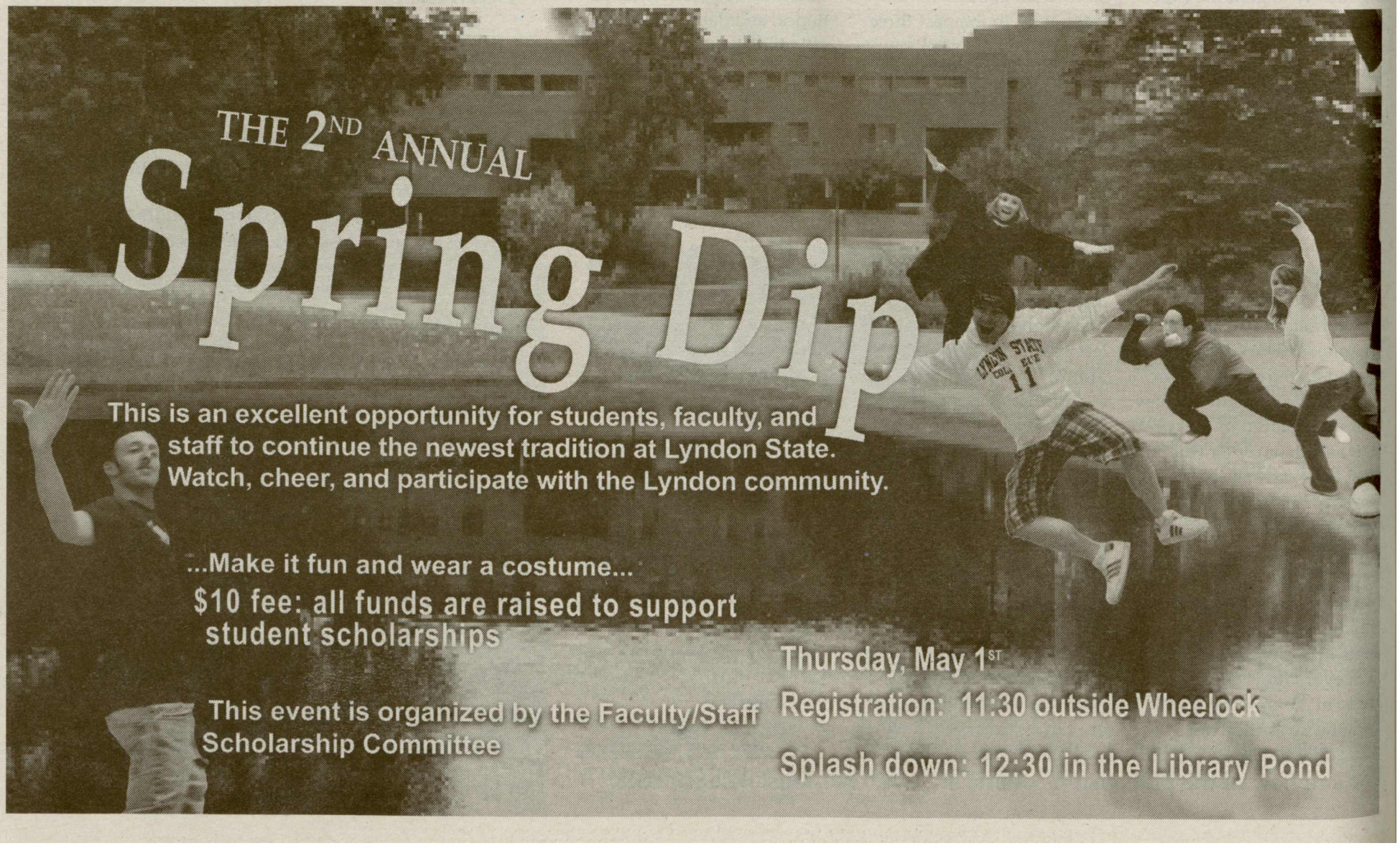


Thank you

Erin, Hope, and everyone else who helped out:

Thank you for all your hard work throughout Housing Week 2008!

-Brandon Buckley



Poor people aren't the only ones who gamble

Reporting by Norman Johnson, Catherine Story, Amanda Wozniak, and Ben Holbrook

A study conducted by The Critic found that Vermont does not necessarily follow the national trend where lower income communities buy more lottery tickets.

The Critic study does not show a direct pattern of per capita income to lottery sales. Essex County, with the lowest per capita income in the state, ranked lowest in state ticket sales. However, Orleans County does follow the trend ranking third in ticket sales and it is the second poorest county by per capita income.

Caledonia county, which ranks 12th in per capita income, is ranked eighth in ticket sales so it does not follow the national trend.

"The Ohio Lottery collected $2.3 billion last year, and sales were the highest in lower-income neighborhoods," The Columbus Dispatch reported.

Sales in areas where the median household income was less than $38,000 were twice as high as those posted in areas where median incomes exceeded $60,000, the newspaper said in its analysis.

These studies were based on neighborhoods and not counties.

Lottery spokesperson, Hadley Melandy said the lottery does not target certain areas for sales. "We don't look for low or high income areas," Melandy said, saying their ticket outlets are found predominantly in pre-existing businesses.

Two main factors influence people and gambling, according to Ronald Rossi, professor of Psychology at LSC. "The first factor is the value of the reinforcement…how much value one places on the amount of money they could win," Rossi said.

"The second factor is the expectation that will get the reinforcement. Most people will continue to gamble even if they only win a small amount of money because it reinforces the belief that they can win." Rossi explained these two factors combine to influence the amount of gambling they will do.

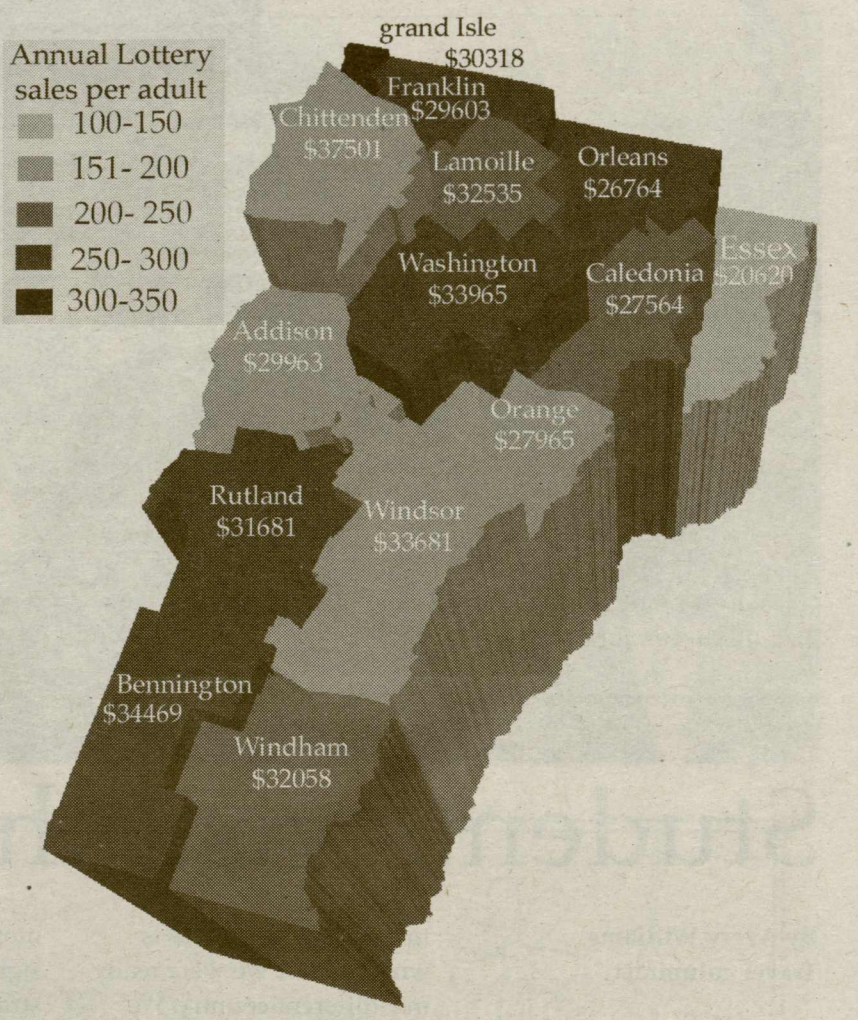
"A poorer person who plays the lottery will place a higher value on winning than a wealthier person," Rossi said. In general Rossi said, people will continue to gamble as long as they win something, rationalizing they are maximizing their chances.

A survey conducted for the Vermont Lottery this year, found the average household income for players is $50,000. The Lottery also found that lower income people in Vermont don't make up a disproportionate share of the players.

National studies suggest the poorer and African Americans make up a disproportionate number of players.

Lotteries have been around for hundreds of years helping to fund everything from education, community development and The American Revolution.

Thomas Jefferson had something to say about the lottery. "A lottery is a solitary instrument and a tax…laid on the willing only, that is to say, on those who can risk the price of a ticket without sensible injury, for the possibility of a higher prize."



Graphic by Catherine Story; John DeLeo Geographic Information System consultant

What to wear, what to wear

By Jennifer Ingram
Critic Staff

Lyndon State College does not have a dress code that is enforced school wide, however, when students get out into their field they are expected to dress professionally.

In the Education department when students go into the school system to either do their practicum or their student teaching, they are expected to wear clothing that is appropriate. Appropriate dress attire for women includes dress pants, skirts and knit tops and for men appropriate attire includes dress pants and button up shirts. Blue jeans and tee shirts are excluded.

There is much debate across the United States as to whether or not there should be dress codes in place and enforced at a college level.

Many argue that a dress code would impose a financial burden on college students. Others argue that by imposing dress codes sends a message of conformity and repression. (http://collegefreedom.blogspot.com/2007/08/dress-codes-for-college-students-people.html)

Although in Vermont it is not common for universities to have dress codes, there are many universities around the country that do. At Bethune-Cookman College, students should dress in a way that shows respect for themselves and for other students.

According to their handbook, females are not allowed to wear tops that show their midriffs or sleeveless men's undershirts, and not allowed to wear skirts that do not meet the "finger-tip test".

Males are not allowed to wear pants below their waistline or show underwear. No one is allowed to wear hats inside buildings. It is also prohibited for female and male students wear pajamas outside of the dormitory because they believe that it is unprofessional. (http://www4.cookman.edu/business/dresscode.htm)

At Illinois State University's College of Business, a public university, the faculty instituted a "business casual" dress code for all juniors and seniors. "We tried to come up with ways to enhance the overall professionalism of our students," Dr. Tim Longfellow the department chair, said. (http://www.cappex.com/blog/blog/college-life/college-dress-code/)

At Campbell University in North Carolina, a private university, some aspects of dress codes are enforced. Females cannot wear spaghetti straps to class. Students that take science classes have to wear pants and lab coats and cannot wear open toe shoes for safety reasons.

"Each individual major has their own guidelines for dress codes. In the Pharmacy program students must dress professional," a student at Campbell University said.

Professionalism, safety and equality are some reasons that colleges and universities have, and enforce dress codes. However, by consensus, the students at LSC are happy with no dress code. "There are many drawbacks by having a dress code, it would be financially hard because we would all have to go out and buy clothes, and we wouldn't be able to show our individuality," an anonymous student at LSC said.

Art around college causes a stir

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.
Critic Editor

The men's bathroom in the main LAC hallway was hit with graffiti sometime Wednesday night, David Wood said.

"My position is basically it's great to voice your opinion, but when you're voicing your opinion through vandalism, it's not right," Wood said.

Wood said that it's the custodians and maintenance workers who have to clean up the graffiti, and it merely makes their jobs harder.

The graffiti looked to have been made with a stencil and black spray paint. To get rid of it, the wall can be painted over but not without removing some of the black paint first.

This school year has seen an unusually high amount of vandalism with 9-10 instances being attributed to "Theo", Wood said.

Photo by Keith Whitcomb

This stencil is just one of many types of graffiti that has popped up around school over the year.

Students visit the People's Republic

By Avery Williams
Travel columnist

Staring from my seat at 6,000 feet, I hear over the planes intercom system an announcement that we will be arriving in Beijing in 20 minutes. Fourteen hours is an amount of time no human was designed to sit through, especially when it is in the company of 20 or so spoiled high school brats. Looking from my window seat I can see the sharp peaks of terraced mountains that lay north of the city. And as suddenly as these pass you see the city. Even from this vantage point it expands on beyond sight and not an inch of the land is wasted.

We went through the airport and were greeted by our faithful tour director, Jeffery Shu. Chinese born, but a resident of the United States now, Jeffery was one of our worst experiences with English. All being exhausted we were brought to our hotel then out to dinner. Once dropped off we need to walk to the restaurant. This is when I knew we were really in a different country. We walked the streets and were invaded with images, sounds and smells so very abnormal. Police officers everywhere, but with no guns; an overpowering smell that reminded me of sewage, which I later learned was a delicacy known as sticky tofu; people with no concept of personal space.

My senses just opened up and tried to experience it all. Walking the streets and being offered foods that were promised to be deer, and candy dipped fruits brought an almost uncontrollable desire to try it all. I must say though that this was strongly discouraged because it would undoubtedly give us a case of the "Runny Stomachs".

One of the most addicting things of China is something that will always be held dearly in my heart, the silk market. It is the world center of con artists who will gladly part foreigners of their money. But with the right insight and a quick wit and strong resolve you could really be the winner of this haggler's paradise.

One of my crowning achievements from this center of debauchery was a hand made tea set they tried to sell me for almost three hundred dollars(US). With an unwavering resolve I walked away a happy man with something that cost me one tenth the asking price. I must admit though that I made a few enemies who insisted that I was a no-good thief.

But above all, two things really stood out about the whole trip that made me fall in love with China. First of these was of course the food. I went into this fearless, undaunted by the fears of "socially unacceptable" foods. I was not disappointed by anything I tried, and there wasn't anything that I didn't try.

The second thing was the grandness of all of China. The culture was one refined by thousands of years more than we can conceive. The very manor of life is so different from ours and there are so many things I think we could learn from them. They have buildings and structures that describe their way of life, functionally, but never forgetting the importance of aesthetic value. The Summer Palace was a place of beauty and affluence. A walk up the Great Wall was far more demanding then any post card could describe but worth every bit of it. The Forbidden City and Terracotta Soldiers showed the grand scale of China's past. And the Temple of the Jade Buddha showed both the beauty of their religions but also there acceptance of the west by allowing us in. I fear with increasing Western influence this is slipping away and they are becoming a little bit more like us.

There is just so much that this country has to offer, and the way it is portrayed in the news now is really unfair. It is not the history, culture or faith of these people that we are opposed to, but their government. Even with everything in the news I know that I personally fell in love with every aspect of China I experienced and have promised myself that I will return one day.

Top: Photo courtesy of Avery Williams
Bottom: Photos by Nick Phelan

Fun Page

"I strongly believe this week's 'Smoker's Pen' is the funniest comic I've run so far. I mean, come on. It's a talking potted plant! I love it when inanimate objects talk to me!" -Overlord of Fun

Another Random Word Search

T	R	K	J	P	F	J	L	E	F	U	W	M	B	I	F	R	Z	Q	E	E	N	X	Q	D
L	P	X	E	C	K	B	G	J	L	I	P	U	W	R	O	K	L	V	O	O	M	U	A	R
V	S	P	B	H	O	R	S	E	H	P	W	S	Z	L	E	I	X	O	M	T	O	N	B	X
R	M	O	A	N	I	M	E	D	W	R	P	I	H	U	K	U	R	F	L	A	N	G	G	F
R	N	W	L	F	E	L	Y	P	B	A	F	N	N	A	R	V	N	X	B	W	H	D	J	Y
R	S	M	G	G	F	T	I	D	C	O	A	W	O	L	Y	O	Y	W	V	G	L	V	F	C
B	M	A	D	K	O	J	A	E	S	F	K	I	I	J	J	K	B	O	L	Y	H	Q	W	H
K	V	O	S	Y	Q	O	S	R	I	I	V	V	T	O	Q	S	X	X	J	W	O	I	B	R
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K	E	I	T	H	I	N	D	A	I	P	Y	B	T	W	F	D	U	W	L	T	T	P	O	H
I	K	Y	X	P	U	W	Y	Z	N	C	Q	Q	I	S	U	A	T	Z	H	A	P	G	Y	V
G	C	C	A	H	V	T	Y	W	K	N	G	I	D	Z	Q	R	D	X	A	E	J	H	O	F
Q	K	F	U	P	O	U	Y	S	A	L	T	Y	E	M	M	G	J	N	P	C	D	A	B	T
I	D	C	H	A	Q	Q	G	R	W	V	G	S	R	I	S	F	V	R	V	B	M	D	D	F
U	G	P	D	K	R	B	Z	Y	L	G	L	S	C	N	R	S	D	O	A	T	R	O	A	O
L	H	C	M	G	K	F	Q	E	O	N	S	E	C	I	O	N	O	E	A	X	M	Z	B	J
Y	B	F	B	T	K	H	L	L	M	U	S	C	A	T	G	U	M	M	Y	Y	O	R	J	T

Yes, I Know. Themes are cool. Unfortunately, I've run dry.

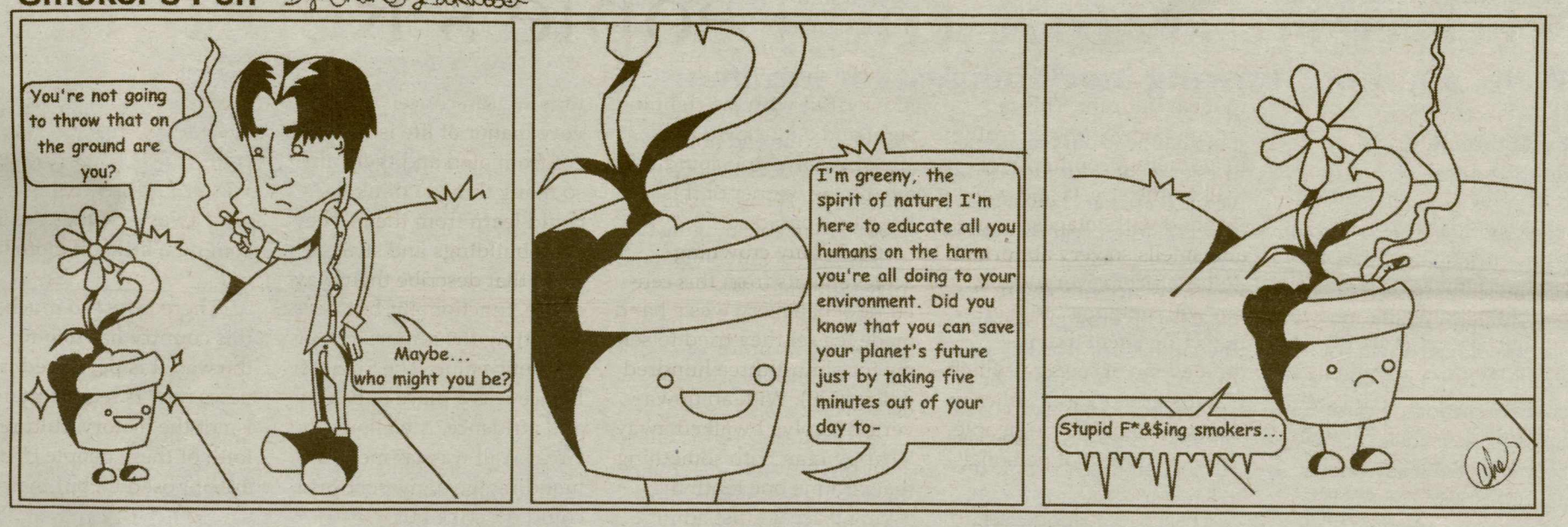
ninja pirate salty bad boy keith spaceship accreditation dr pepper
not moxie lang horse toad bataan muscat gummy anime

Hardest Sudoku Ever!

1						3		
9	3				8			
2		5		9			1	6
	5				9	7		
						5	2	
	4				2	1		8
				2				
	7	1			3			2
				7		9		

Puzzle generated with Java Sudoku Version 1.0.1, released under the General Public License by Samantha Yen. Kudos to Dan Brook for finding it!

Smoker's Pen By Charles Lockwood



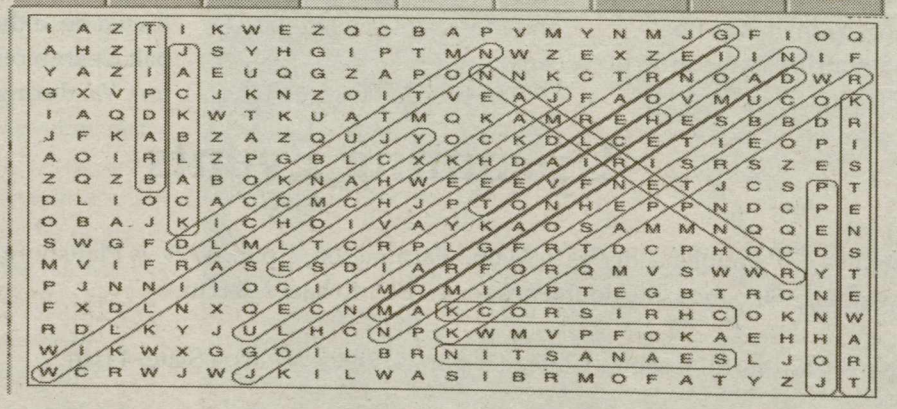
Lynch & Flynch

Well there goes the neighborhood!

Lynch and Flynch by Mark Coran

Last Issue's Answers:

1	8	3	9	7	5	2	6	4
5	4	9	3	6	2	1	7	8
2	6	7	1	8	4	3	9	5
6	5	2	8	9	3	4	1	7
9	1	8	6	4	7	5	2	3
3	7	4	5	2	1	9	8	6
7	3	6	2	5	9	8	4	1
8	2	5	4	1	6	7	3	9
4	9	1	7	3	8	6	5	2



Are you even using the answers, or do you just solve the puzzles and throw the paper away? I have a better suggestion. Listen to Greeny. Save the environment. For just pennies a day, you could save one hungry tree. How, you might ask? By purchasing paper. Lots of it. Dead trees can't hunger. I guarantee it. For this week's answers, check back next week for another exciting issue of THE CRITIC!

The Three Count: My Personal Opinion on Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson

By Timothy Kemp
Critic Columnist

It has almost been a month since the WWE Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, in which The Rock made his return, after a four year hiatus, to induct his father and grandfather. To be honest, it was awesome to see him back, as it brought back a lot of great memories for me.

When The Rock was in wrestling, he certainly was a total package, in that he could wrestle and his skills on the microphone were just through the roof. That man could cut a promo better than anyone else in the history of the business. No doubt! It is only fitting that he would make a transition into being a major Hollywood star.

I believe it was 2002 when he starred in his first real movie, (excluding his minor role in The Mummy Returns), which was called *The Scorpion King*. At that moment he now had a new passion in life, so I'm sure it was a tough decision to leave the business that he has grown up with. I personally think he is a great actor. He has made a lot of successful movies, and continues to do so. And to be honest, he has already accomplished everything there is in wrestling, so I can understand why he wants to move on to another venture.

Now it is time to show you my ugly side when it comes to Mr. Dwayne Johnson. Could someone please explain to me why he feels like he needs to distance himself from wrestling? I know he is a busy man in Hollywood and I'm sure he has a lot of things on his mind, but for him to say, "I love this business," and never want to do anything with it for four years kind of seems odd to me.

I'm not saying he needs to come back full time, or even part time. If he wants to be retired, that's fine. However, that doesn't mean he can't make a special appearance. Wrestling has been very good time, and made him a star. Don't you think he owes it back to wrestling and the fans by giving them a special treat every now and then?

It's almost like a time-honored tradition in the wrestling business that when your time to shine is over, that you help build the next generation of superstars. There are so many young stars right now that are struggling to develop who they are as characters, and The Rock has the ability to bring out the best in them. He could do that simply by just interacting with them on special occasions, but the fact that he chooses not to do so is kind of insulting. He became such a star in wrestling, and he gives nothing back.

Some people like to say, "Since the Benoit tragedy, wrestling is a dirty business with the media and being a part of it will ruin your career outside of it." I personally think that is just ridiculous. Making small, but meaningful appearances in wrestling is not going to hurt someone's movie career. I don't think it matters what you do for a living; if a movie has a good plotline and is interesting to viewer; people are going to see it. What makes a movie a success is the entire picture, not just the actor. All in all, I have all the respect in the world for The Rock, as a wrestler, actor and human being. I just hope he knows how much the wrestling fans miss him, and want to see him back.

Match of the Week – This week a few matches on Monday Night Raw get the award. CM Punk was made to look like a main event player, as he had three great matches with Matt Hardy, Chris Jericho and William Regal in the King of the Ring tournament. Although he lost to Mr. Regal in the finals, he was certainly the star of the night. If you get a chance to see these matches, please do. You're in for a treat.

Water sport not drawing much interest for intramurals

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

Water polo is considered by many to be a niche sport, played and followed by a select few individuals. The sport is played as part of intramural director Sue Henry's swim conditioning class, but those students have not appeared to show any interest in playing outside of the class.

"I was hoping we'd get some teams out of that (her swim conditioning class), but it just hasn't happened," Henry said.

According to Henry, who has been the intramural director here for 20 years, water polo has been offered as an intramural sport for the last 18 years. It appears however that this is a down year for water polo.

"Most activities go in cycles. The interest grows, and then it dies out. The key is trying to get it going, then spread it through word of mouth," Henry said. She also mentioned that if people did see that it was going on, then they might be interested in playing. She thinks that instant messaging and more night classes are among the major reasons for the lack of interest.

While Henry does not see a rebound in interest happening before the end of this semester, she does believe that she should become more proactive in encouraging her students to get involved with playing water polo.

"Maybe I could make it (playing intramural) an extra credit for the class," Henry said.

While it may be too late to sign up for water polo this semester, there's always next year, because the sport is offered as an intramural activity. To get involved, you can either get a group of your friends together and sign up, or simply join as a free agent on the sheets posted on Henry's office door.

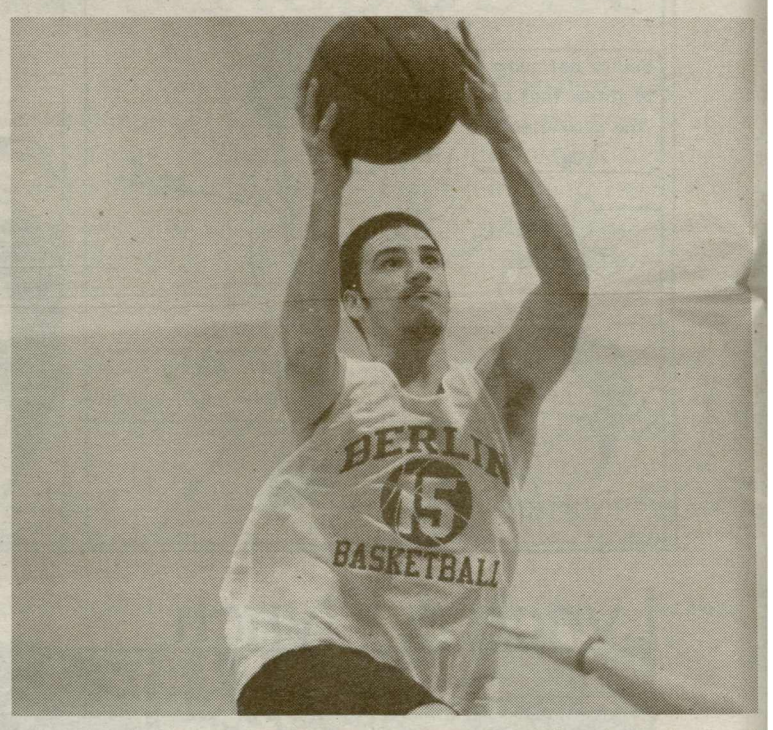


Photo by Jordan Royer
Jamason Levesque drives to the basket during the third annual Quest for the Kingdom Cup, hosted by the Exercise Science Department.

What's the buzz? The latest news on Lyndon State athletics

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

After posting a 6-14 record in Jen Kirchoff's first year as coach, the Lady Hornets softball team has earned a bid the USCAA Women's Softball Championship in Decatur, Ill.

The players celebrated wildly when Kirchoff told them about the bid following their doubleheader against Castleton State on Wednesday. The team will finish the season with doubleheaders against College of St. Joseph's and Mass. College of Liberal Arts.

The baseball team also has a good chance of earning a bid to the USCAA tournament. The team is 9-10 on the year and was ranked second in the most recent standings, which were released last week. If the team earns a bid, they'd be at the USCAA Baseball Championship in Hampton, Va. during finals week.

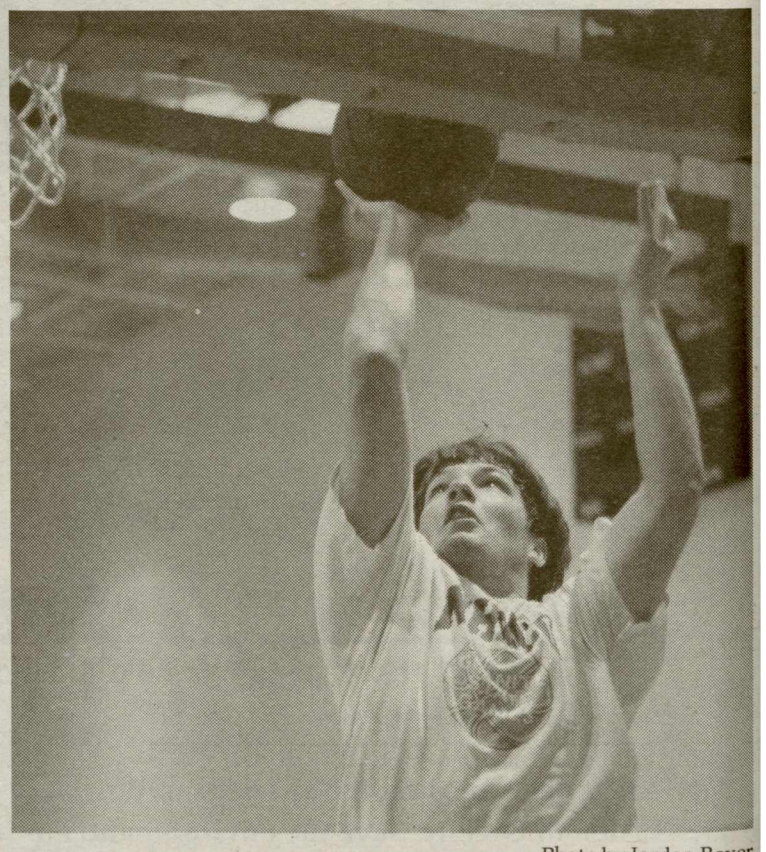


Photo by Jordan Royer
Josh Bergeron goes up for a layup during the Exercise Science Department's third annual Quest for the Kingdom Cup 3-on-3 basketball tournament, which was held on Wednesday night. The team of Brad Durr, Paul Nadeau, Mike Thibault and Kelly Warren won the Cup.

Upcoming Events

Baseball: 4/25, doubleheader vs. UMaine-Farmington, 1 p.m. 4/29 vs Plattsburgh State (9 inning game), 3:30 p.m. 4/30, doubleheader vs. St. Michael's, 3 p.m.

Lacrosse: 4/26 vs. St. Joseph's College, 1 p.m. 4/28 vs. Johnson State, 4 p.m.

Men's Tennis: 4/26 vs. Green Mountain College, 1 p.m. 4/27 vs. Green Mountain College, 10 a.m.

Notes: Baseball and softball games are held at the Darrell "Skip" Pound Baseball and Softball Fields. All softball games are doubleheaders. Lacrosse games are played on the soccer field. Tennis meets are held at the tennis courts next to the Alumni House. Game times and locations are subject to change.

The Critic

Serving the student voice of Lyndon State College

One copy free, extras 50 cents each

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Tony O'Conner, an LSC alumnus, is making a bid for governor with an "amputated campaign." pg.2

Spring Dip 2008

Want more Spring Dip photos? Open up to page five.

Photo by Herb Swanson

...maybe you'll even read the news while you're at it.

By Matt Vercillo
Critic Staff

There isn't anything more enjoyable than going for a swim on a sunny May afternoon. Unless of course, it's 40 degrees outside. This year's Spring Dip was faced with this very twist of fate on Thursday, May 1 when over a dozen members of the community gathered to face the frigid waters.

Spring Dip, now in its second year, is an annual fundraiser held by the Faculty-Staff Scholarship committee. The event was conceived as both a wacky way to shake the winter blues, and also as a creative fundraiser benefiting student scholarships through the Faculty/Staff Scholarship Endowment Fund.

Registration was $10 per person, which was donated. Entrants all received a coupon for a free iced coffee, although most everybody seemed to need a hot cup on that day. A veil of clouds formed and was diffusing what little warmth could have been offered, but the show went on.

Things started at 12:30 p.m. without delay, and the 13 registered participants lined up outside along the edge of the water. They all rushed in at once, and a 14th member ran in at the last second to join the festivities.

Granted, the event was purposefully designed to offer the dippers with a brisk experience. However, it was particularly cold for the first day in May. All of the dippers should be given a pat on the back for risking pneumonia in the name of student scholarships.

LSC legend, Harry Swett was one of the participants in the Spring Dip. "It's a good cause...damn that water's cold!" he said, as he stood hunched and shivering after his brief flirtation with the icy pond-water. Harry's enthusiasm was also emanating from his bright pink wig and oversized, Seuss-inspired top hat. "It's good to have spirit."

Given the conditions outside, none of the swimmers seemed particularly intent on spending any extra time enjoying a swim. It was in and out for everyone.

The event was over as fast as it began. After all was said and done, the event was a relative success despite the opposition of the weather. Given the number of entrants, there was a stout $130 raised towards scholarships, which should provide one lucky student with a fraction of one credit here at LSC.

As the crowd dispersed and the swimmers dried off, it was hard not to notice the sun beginning to peek out.

Photo by Ryan Lee

Harry Swett prepares to dip himself in the Vail pond.

LSC alum goes out on a limb for weed

Tony O'Connor speaks to LSC students about his campaign for Governor

By Catherine Story
Business Manager

Tony O'Connor, an LSC alumnus, is making a run for governor this fall and he stopped by LSC to chat with students about his "no politics policy."

"There's no pazzazz," O'Conner said "There's no fun. I want to make it fun."

O'Conner holds to his views which are a little different than most politicians. His motivation is that he's not a politician.

"I won't take the big bucks," O'Conner said. "I don't want anyone to own me at the end of this."

O'Conner estimated that he had only raised about $5,000.

"The ordinary citizens of the state are sick of seeing professionals screw it up," O'Conner said. "I could screw it up just as well."

O'Conner's speech was full of jokes. Many of these were focused on his disabilities.

"I lost my arm and both my legs, below the knee," O'Conner said. He was electrocuted while playing in a train yard as a teenager.

"I was hoping to receive a lot of press for free," O'Conner said. He has had trouble getting much attention in papers and on television stations.

"I want someone to write a letter to the Burlington Free Press and tell them that there's another candidate," O'Conner said.

O'Conner's major issues are oil and energy.

"We need to cut the oil umbilical cord," O'Conner said. He also talked about rising gas prices, which he said, are up $.71 since January 1.

"I do not support atomic energy," O'Conner said. "There are other forms of energy."

"I don't think Vermonters want anymore atomic plants," O'Conner said. O'Conner worked for the INS and he said that atomic plants are a likely terrorist target.

He supports hydro dams around the state as well as solar power and wind turbines.

O'Conner's other major political goal is to completly legalize marijuana.

"I was in law enforcement for a while," O'Conner said. "I hated ruining kid's lives over a couple of joints."

"When you pull over someone who has been smoking marijuana they're apologetic," O'Conner said. As opposed to pulling over a drunk which he described as hostile.

"Marijuana can't be stopped," O'Conner said. " Just like distilling alcohol couldn't be."

O'Conner pointed out that while working on the border he new many people who had smoked marijuana in their past.

"If you use marijuana it leads to bigger things," O'Conner said. "Which apparently means a job at the border."

"Fifty percent of United States citizens want marijuana legalized," O'Conner said. "Let's tax it and make some money.

O'Conner does not support the legalization of any other drugs.

O'Conner is also anti-draft.

"I am not in favor of the draft," O'Conner said. "I am in favor of paying them."

O'Conner hopes to return to the campus in the fall to what he hopes will be a larger crowd.

"I'm already reaching tens of people," O'Conner said.

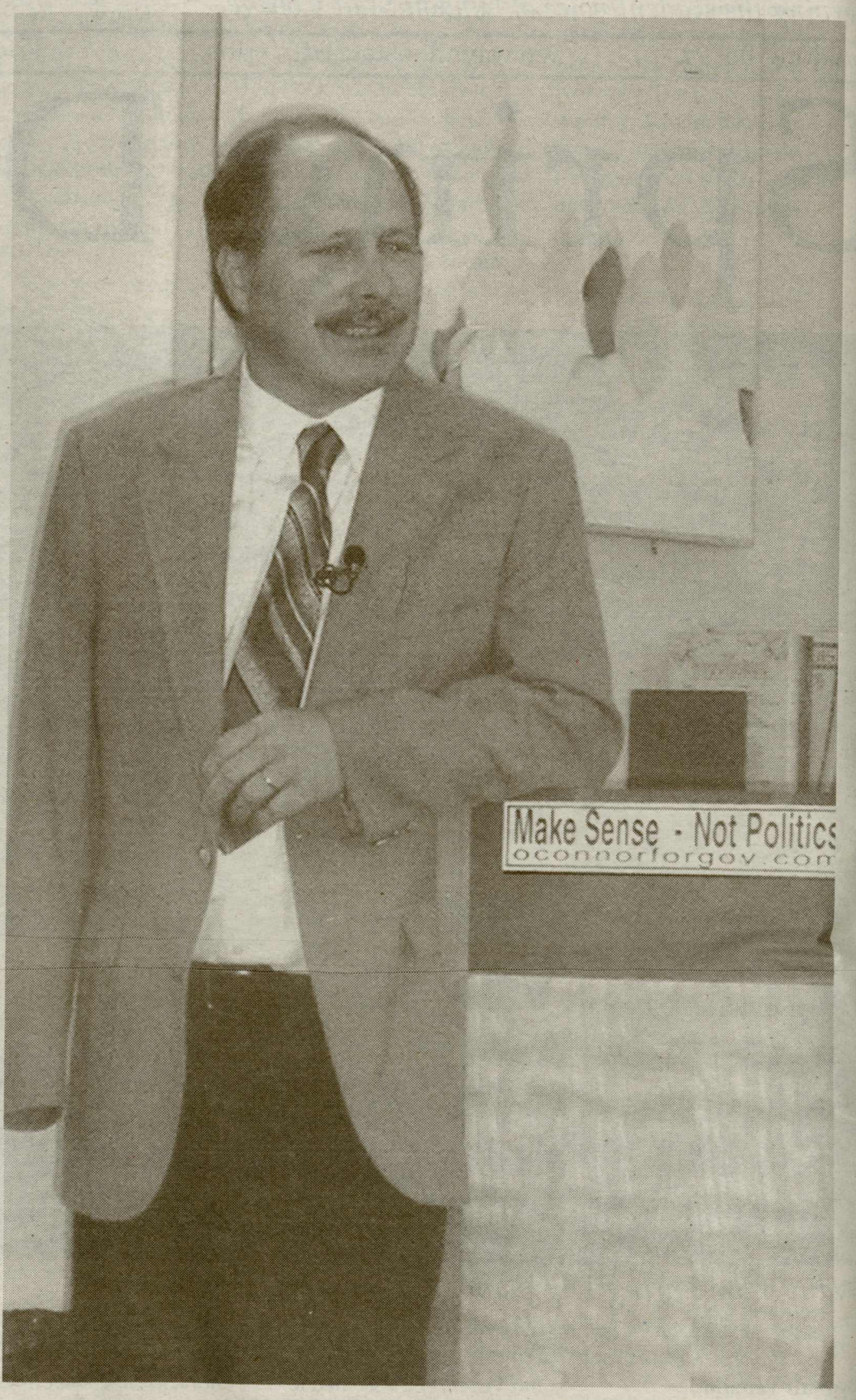

Photo by Catherine Story

Tony O'Connor discusses issues he would address if he were elected Governor of Vermont. O'Connor is running on a tight budget with little support.

SGA needed for college accreditation

By Ben Holbrook
Managing Editor

SGA plays a larger role at LSC than just working for the student body.

Every 10 years colleges are required to submit a self-study, which is a 100 page document describing the school, Bruce Berryman, professor of Meteorology, said.

Berryman has been a part of the evaluation process for a number of years.

The document covers three main areas, which are what the school is doing at that time to address certain areas, an analysis of how well they are addressing these areas, and what they will do in the future to improve, Berryman said. Two students sit in on the evaluation process and help with writing up the analysis of how the school is doing, Berryman said. The school will then be evaluated by an outside agency, which will determine whether the school is meeting the requirements to be accredited.

As part of the evaluation, accredited schools are required to have a functioning student government, Jonathan Maciel, SGA president, said. If however, a school did not have a functioning SGA then, "it wouldn't be immediately that they close us down," Berryman said. However, the school would be required to explain why it doesn't have a SGA and if it couldn't give a justifiable reason then there could be problems, Berryman said.

The evaluation system that is used to determine if a school can be accredited is vague because, "each school is different so each SGA is different," Maciel said.

There are certain problems that arise if a school cannot be accredited. One of the problems is that a school is not eligible to receive Federal aid for its students if it isn't accredited, Berryman said.

Another problem is that, "if you aren't then who would want to come here?" Berryman said. Accreditation means that the school has been looked at by an outside agency and it is functioning properly and is a respectable college, Berryman said.

If SGA were unable to function properly then it is up to the students to make sure it did because the administration will not step in to fix the problem. SGA is a student run organization and therefore it is a student problem if it isn't working, Maciel said. The SGA at LSC is a large organization since every club has a representative, which not all SGA's have.

LSC has never had a problem with losing accreditation and has passed the requirements every time, Berryman said.

Move Out and Hoe Out

When: *May 9th-18th before you check out*

Where: *Your Residence Hall lounge areas (look for the signs)*

By Kurt Heinchon
Critic Columnist

Last year, LSC spent nearly $5,000 and threw away over 10 tons of material during the move out process. Most of the material that was thrown out could have been reused by the community or recycled. Some examples of the things one could have seen were whole futons, various amount of books, old binders, working TVs, microwaves, and DVD players. You name it and I guarantee that you would have found it in those dumpsters. Not only that, it wasn't the students fault entirely, with having no real venue to go through to get rid of the unwanted material that can't fit in the already over loaded car. All of that is about to change my friends because this year LSC, along with the Advisory Committee on Sustainability, Students for Campus Conservation, and NEKWMD, are hosting the first "MOVE OUT HOE OUT EVENT," which will occur during exam week before you check out of your room. This event will help in diverting reusable and recyclable material from our waste-stream. All you have to do if follow a few easy steps:

1. Decide what you are not going to take home
2. Bring the items to your lounge area when you check out. (Note: Please wash any clothes, as well as wash and defrost refrigerators)

Once you get to the lounge area all you have to do is place it in the designated area and VOILA! You are all done and ready to go home. A group of volunteers will be taking your donations to be sorted and redistributed to the rest of the community.

If you would like to volunteer for the event or you have any questions please contact Kurt.Heinchon@lsc.vsc.edu.

Those who volunteer for the event will be able to take one item they may want for free!

Potatoes, potatoes, and more potatoes

By Gwen Cook
Critic Columnist

Potatoes are a pretty inexpensive and filling addition to any meal.

They can also be a meal in themselves, which is what I wanted to focus my column on this week. A bag of potatoes could go a long way if you knew the right recipes, even if you've only got a microwave to cook with.

S.O.S

Ingredients:

4 large potatoes

1 package of Steakums (microwaveable)

1 jar of beef gravy

3-4 tablespoons margarine (optional)

Procedure:

Scrub the potatoes thoroughly. Pierce with fork and microwave on high for 5-7 minutes or until soft, flipping them about halfway through.

Let cool enough so that you can handle them safely. Cut and/or peel the skins from the potatoes.

Mash the peeled potatoes in a large bowl. Add butter if desired. A dash of milk , if you have any on hand, would make the potatoes creamier. Follow the directions on the Steakums package and then blot with paper towel after to dry up the grease.

Chop up the steakums and mix them in a small bowl with the jar of heated gravy. Pour gravy mixture over potatoes.

Potato skins

Ingredients:

2 large potatoes

1 bottle of Bacon Bits

1 small container of sour cream

Cheez whiz or shredded cheese

Procedure:

Scrub the potatoes thoroughly. Pierce with fork and microwave on high for 5-7 minutes or until soft, flipping about halfway through. Cool enough so that you can handle them safely. Cut in half and place on plate. Scoop out a little hole in the center of the potato halves in order to hold the filling.

Next, sprinkle on Bacon Bits and then top with cheese. Microwave on high for another 30-45 seconds to melt the cheese.

Top with a dollop of sour cream and a little sprinkle of cheese if you're feeling lucky.

Microwaveable potato chips

Ingredients:

4 large potatoes

Approx. 1 tablespoon vegetable oil

Salt (optional)

Procedure:

Scrub potatoes thoroughly. Slice VERY thin (almost paper thin) and place in a bowl of cool water, with desired amount of salt, for 10-15 minutes. Take them out and place them on a paper towel to dry.

Place potato slices on either a microwave safe plate or an opened up hot pocket sleeve which has been rubbed with vegetable oil.

Add desired seasonings if preferred. Cover potatoes with a microwave safe cover. Cook on high for about 5 minutes or until they are light brown.

You don't have to re-grease the plate/hot pocket sleeve for the next batch.

Repeat all other steps for the remaining potatoes.

LSC gets trashed up

By Brian Wilcock, Jon Mazurek, and Dani LaPointe
Special to the Critic

Over two thirds of LSC's waste is actually recyclable material including glass, plastic, aluminum, paper and organic material that can be composted.

The findings come from a waste audit done by Students for Campus Conservation (SCC) during Earth Week. A waste audit is an event where people sort through "trash" to see how much waste can actually be recyclable.

Things in the trash include many unopened or half finished items of food and drink, clothes in good condition, books, and others. The waste audit will hopefully get students and administrators to see that many of the things that are thrown away should actually go somewhere else to be recycled or used as compost.

A large percentage of the actual trash consisted of Styrofoam plates, plastic utensils, packaged food wrappers, and coffee cups. Most of these items and a majority of the organic material (food) came from the Hornet's Nest. It would be easy to solve this problem by implementing practices such as using reusable or recyclable serving containers.

To reduce the amount of organic waste that is thrown out, the Hornet's Nest could start a composting program like the one already in use at the Dining Hall. These two practices would greatly reduce the amount of waste on campus.

Those living and studying on campus would benefit from a more expansive and convenient recycling program. In a recent project for our Leadership Theory and Practice class, we put recycling bins in every freshman suite on campus. These were available to be used at the convenience of students.

The SCC club is currently focusing on increasing awareness and creating solutions for more sustainable waste management on campus.

If anyone is interested in helping us create a more sustainable campus, they can e-mail Kurt Heinchon at *kurt.heinchon@lyndonstate.edu.*

Letter Policy:
The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must include the author's phone number and address. The Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments.
Please send your letters to:

critic@lyndonstate.edu or

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Soldiers raise questions about war's conduct

Nat Forcier
Critic Columnist

On the morning of 9/11, Nick Davis, Afghanistan/Iraq War veteran and former LSC student, was down a fox hole training with his M16 along with other Army personnel.

Drill sergeants told everyone to halt, gathered together after some initial confusion, and resumed the exercise. The Army chose not to share the details and Davis had no access to the media.

Many join our armed forces and "deploy with noble intentions," Matt Howard, president of the Vermont chapter of Iraq Veterans Against the War and UVM student, told an LSC audience in April.

But Howard said, "I didn't sign up to have contractors make billions. . . . Iraq as a country does not exist. It is rubble."

Howard joined the Marines pre-9/11, because he lacked direction, understood the benefits after service, and out of an "allegiance to the Constitution."

Davis joined for similar reasons and is proud of his Company's efforts: "We did it awesome." He, like other Americans trusted in the prowess of our military, and thought, "Who is gonna mess with us?"

He did not anticipate serving one tour of duty in Afghanistan and two in Iraq.

LSC professor Patricia Shine has a nephew who served and was honorably discharged.

He established a business in Florida and, then as part of the Stop Loss policy, was called back to serve again; he lost his business and investment.

For family members, Shine said, it is "just a nightmare." Stop Loss enables the military to require, if it chooses, service 90 days before a volunteer's start date and extends service 90 days beyond the end of one's service.

During this extension, another tour of duty can be demanded. This is often referred to as a sort of "back door draft."

Davis signed up for four years active duty and four years inactive duty with the Army.

He has served his Stop Loss tour and, with one year left of inactive duty, is contacted every couple of weeks by recruiters updating his information.

He is cooperative and hopes to remain a student in the meanwhile, but the stress of knowing that he may have to return to the Middle East is uncomfortable.

It's "hard for families," Davis said. He realizes that with "one little signature [the] non-deployable crap is thrown out the window."

Howard suggests each of us take seriously the idea that the war "was being done in your name. . . . Get informed, do the research, and know the geopolitics behind it."

4027 soldiers have died in Iraq and the number approaches 500 in Afghanistan. Civilians have suffered far greater losses -- men, women and children.

"Even if you don't support the war, you can always support the soldiers," Davis said.

According to the Congressional Budget Office,

"As of December 2006, more than 1 million active-duty military personnel and over 400,000 reservists had deployed to combat operations in the Iraq and Afghanistan theaters."

While this war may not seem to touch us all, as casualties increase, it reaches deeper.

Our veterans return in need of care and now the order "don't diagnose PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder)," said Howard, has come down.

This recognized detriment of war is considered a "pre-existing personality disorder" and thereby relieves the government of the responsibility of treatment for those suffering. Traumatic brain injuries are also of particular concern in this war.

The projected lifetime cost for treatment of these bomb blast injuries is $35 million.

Shine indicated that as funding continues to be spent on the Global War on Terror, other services are "losing major funding and it's not going to get any better. . . . We are ethically-bound to hold elected representatives accountable."

The War List reports that "according to secret Pentagon study, Marines KIA [killed in action] from upper body wounds that might have survived with extra armor, 2003-2005 [equals] 80 percent."

Cries about inadequate equipment fell upon deaf ears. We cannot let the same mistake be made with services denied our veterans.

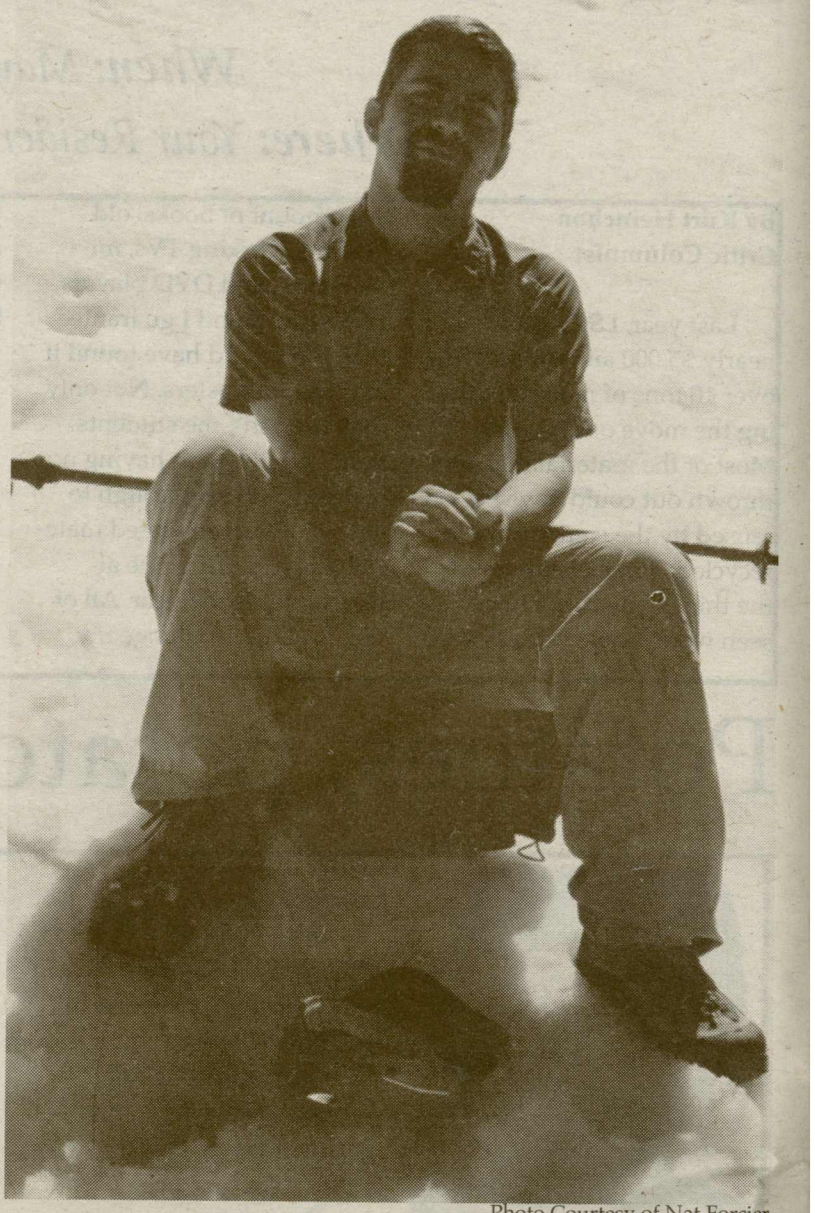


Photo Courtesy of Nat Forcier

While our military serves abroad in a certain capacity, these soldiers are ready to fulfill duty in this country should it become necessary. Send mail and shoeboxes full of items!

Davis said that "mail is better than e-mail. It's like a present."

Don't expect a thank you letter back, but know that your gift is well-received.

A handmade envelope from a friend meant a lot to him.

The woman who became his girlfriend made a wreath with her mother of Vermont balsam and Davis hung it in his tent until it was brown; he had to be asked to take it down.

Yellow ribbons are meaningful for troops to see.

"I wish people talked more to soldiers," Davis said.

They have stories to tell and the telling may benefit both the veteran and the listener.

In Part II, a discussion of how we can become better informed, the role of National Guard, and LSC Vietnam veterans consider the issue of how to respond to war and how to best support the troops.

Rockin' on the Green

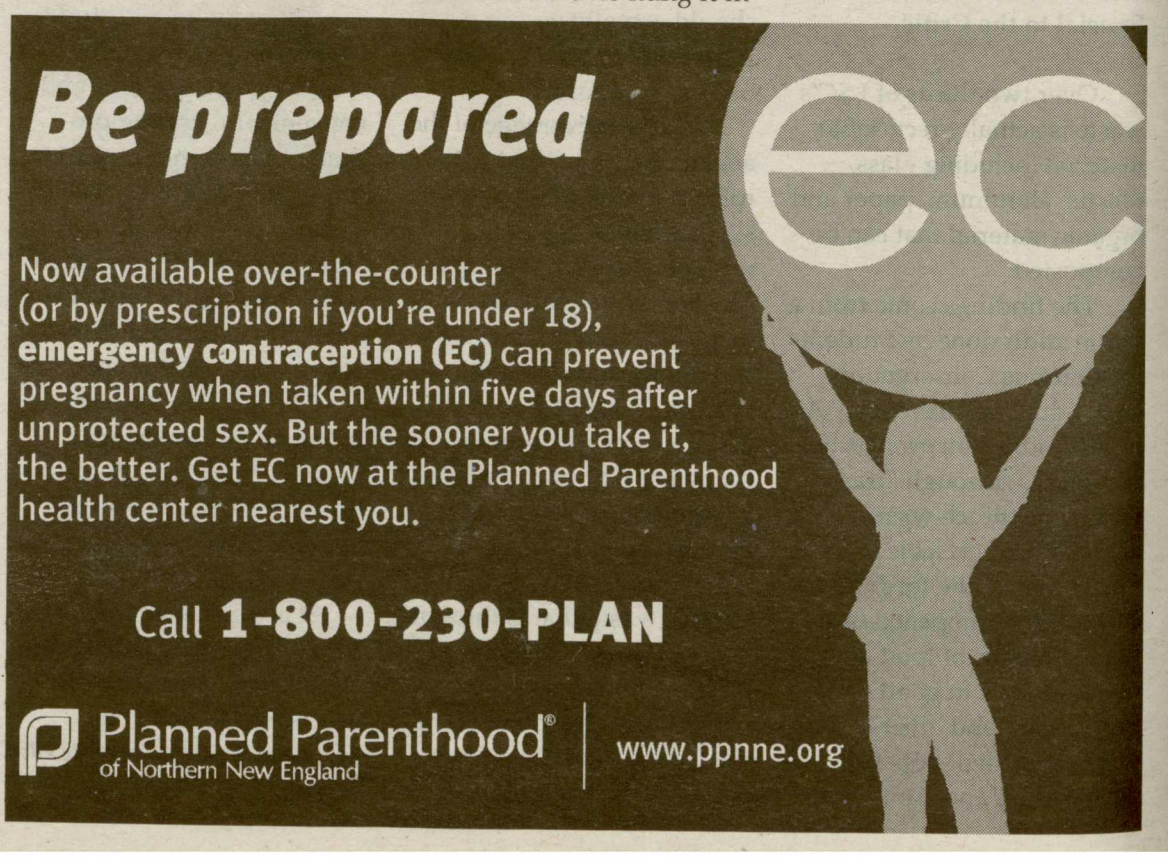
Music by:

Hybrid
Liquichicken

Jam session

Spring Day, May 3rd
5:00-8:00p.m.

On the greens outside the LSC Student Center
Bring Blankets to sit outside!



Campus Snapshots

"It's a good cause... damn that water's cold!" said LSC legend, Harry Swett.

Top: Students and Faculty wallow in pond waters
Left: All 13 members gathered before the splash
Right: Harry Swett dressed in all his regalia
Bottom: The proverbial white flag was waved as everyone retreated from the frigid waters

Photo by Catherine Story
Photo by Ryan Lee
Photo by Herb Swanson
Photo by Catherine Story

LSC recreation major gets a job in Colorado

Catherine Story
Business Manager

One LSC student recently made a trek across the country to start a job at an outdoor adventure program called Deer Hill in Colorado.

"I'm working at deer hill because it's a sweet place with sweet people in a good central location for outdoor recreation activities," Seth Gordon, an adventure based program management major who graduated in December, said.

"I also like their mission to implement service projects into all of their programs to help out usually Native Americans or the USFS (United States Forest Service) which benefits everyone," Gordon said.

"I'm pretty much using my major to the T," Gordon said. "I am a manager at an adventure based program."

"I think working here will improve my leadership skills by being in a managerial position and being an educator to give me a solid foundation for advancing into the adventure guiding realm," Gordon said.

"I'm always nervous about the responsibility but when I get there it's a lot of fun," Gordon said.

Gordon's jobs at Deer Hill include managing the base camp and being a field instructor. While managing the base camp he is responsible for the group's food and equipment preparations while they travel. As a field instructor, Gordon will be guiding groups through the area for weeks at a time.

Gordon drove across the country with just a few belongings, mainly clothing and recreation equipment that he will need at his new job.

"I was afraid my car would break down," Gordon said. His Chevy Malibu cost almost $1000 in repairs before he left.

"I was also afraid I would run out of money, which I did," Gordon said.

With gas prices peaking at $3.69 the trip was a little more expensive than he had anticipated.

"I was excited about seeing places I had never been and visiting friends who had moved to Colorado on the way," Gordon said.

"I'm not sure if I was a rec. major or just a major wreck," Gordon said about his college career. That's a common saying among students in the LSC recreation department.

"I have a real passion for being outside" Gordon said. "I find value in interacting with my natural world and feel that it can help me learn about myself, grow as an individual and find a sense of place and value through a connection with my natural environment."

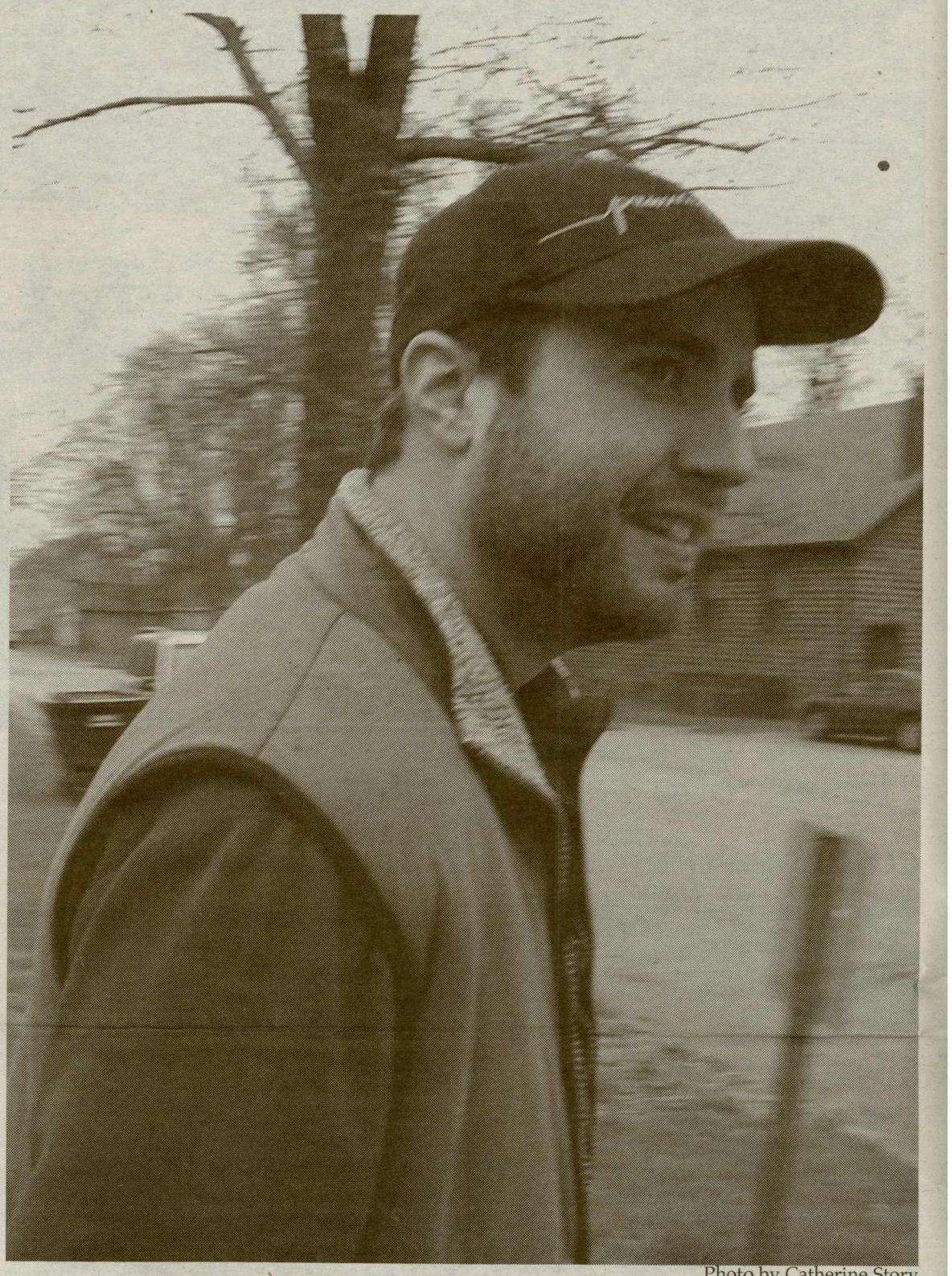


Photo by Catherine Story

Public Safety officer Charlie Forrest talks about keeping students safe

Photo by Ryan Lee

By Ben Holbrook
Managing Editor

Charlie Forrest sits in the Public Safety office taking calls before he heads out for his usual security checks around campus.

Charlie Forrest, a Public Safety officer, has been working at LSC since 2004 after he decided to leave his state corrections job. "I got tired of dealing with the atmosphere and the inmates," Forrest said. Working for Public Safety at LSC is along the same lines as corrections in terms of making sure everything is in order, Forrest said.

Forrest, who works from 4 p.m. until 12 a.m., is usually alone for the first three hours of his shift until another Public Safety officer goes on duty. All of the Public Safety officer shifts overlap so that someone is always on duty, Forrest said.

Forrest, who attended LSC in 88' and 89', served in the military for 16 years and is now part of the National Guard. "Eventually I would like to be the director of Public Safety," Forrest said.

Public Safety is required to go on routine security checks during their shifts to inspect the buildings and check the boilers every couple of hours, Forrest said. "Once everyone goes home we take over everything," Forrest said.

"I really enjoy this job because it gives me the opportunity to help people out," Forrest said. Although there are some issues, usually with underage drinking and some drugs, there aren't many problems on campus, Forrest said. "The potential (for something to happen) is always there," Forrest said.

Some of the most common problems that Public Safety deals with are issues with parking, especially with students who park in the fire lanes.

The prime days for there to be problems are Wednesdays because of Packer night, Fridays when everybody is gearing up for the weekend, and the beginning and end of the school year, Forrest said.

If there are issues that can't be handled by Public Safety officers, such as a student who is getting aggressive then the state police have to be called. "Public Safety officers don't have the ability to restrain people because we don't have arresting powers," Forrest said. "When dealing with someone during an incident I fall back on my communication skills that I learned while working in corrections," Forrest said.

"I just want to keep everything calm and talk to them," Forrest said.

"People should know that this department is here to keep people safe and make sure that no one gets hurt," Forrest said.

Fun Page

"There's an old saying in Tennessee — I know it's in Texas, probably in Tennessee — that says, fool me once, shame on — shame on you. Fool me — you can't get fooled again." -George W. Bush

Marvel-ous Word Find

N	B	L	U	D	O	D	J	Y	E	G	N	F	H	Y	Q	X	B	K	R	V	G	Y	V	E
W	C	D	G	K	U	Z	A	T	M	N	V	L	O	O	P	D	A	E	D	T	Z	G	T	C
I	R	O	N	M	A	N	D	R	J	W	I	Q	Z	D	N	T	L	O	B	K	C	A	L	B
E	Y	E	S	L	L	U	B	A	E	E	Z	R	R	L	T	H	E	H	U	L	K	Z	B	E
M	X	J	Y	P	L	T	T	R	T	D	L	M	E	R	J	D	I	B	L	R	B	U	C	H
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V	C	Z	A	V	N	J	K	F	Z	R	G	S	I	C	V	O	N	L	P	U	W	M	M	A
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B	T	E	W	R	Z	F	D	H	I	F	R	O	G	U	E	Q	C	S	D	H	C	P	X	Q

Back on track with a new theme! Marvel superheroes unite! See if you can find the lurking villian!

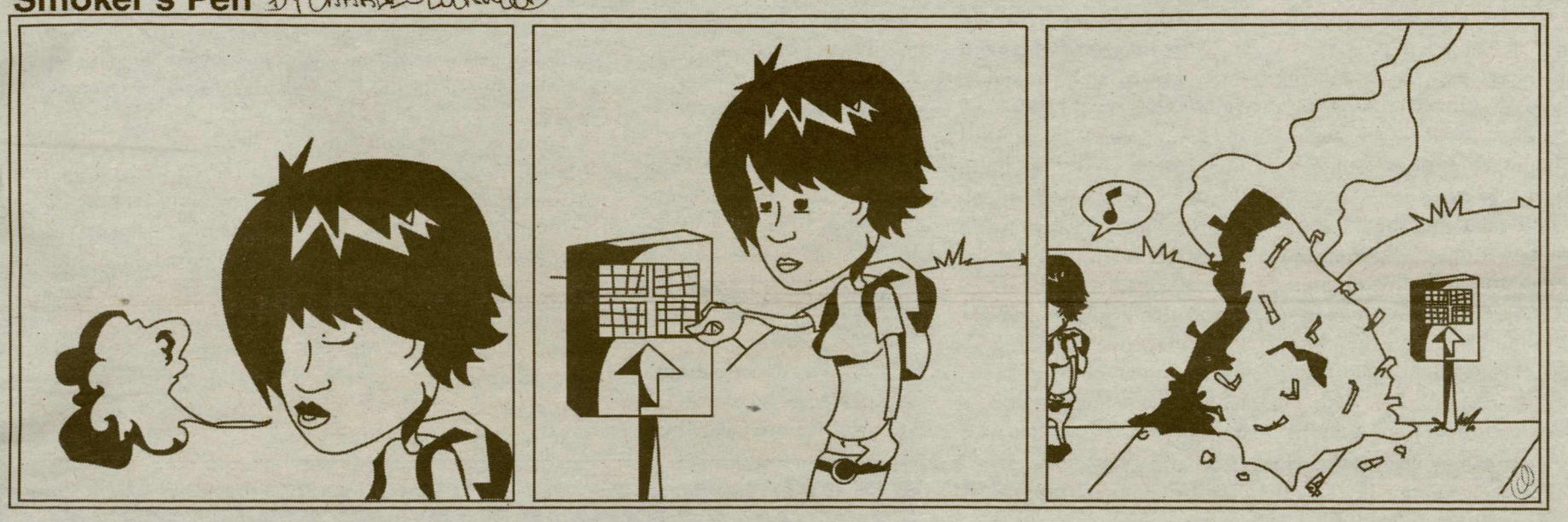
Ironman The Hulk Nick Fury Spiderman Daredevil Thor Wolverine Deadpool Human Torch Luke Cage Mr. Fantastic Nightcrawler Rogue Cyclops Cable Blackbolt Dr. Strange Bull's Eye

Significantly Easier Sudoku

	9			8				7
		4						1
	3		5	1		4		
9		8	3		7			
5		3		6				8
		6				2	3	
3			7			1		
1				3				5
	8	5			2		7	

Puzzle generated with Java Sudoku Version 1.0.1, released under the General Public License by Samantha Yen. Kudos to Dan Brook for finding it!

Smoker's Pen By CHARLES LOCKWOOD



Lynch & Flynch "Plumber

Dangerous Occupations For Fish!

Lynch and Flynch by Mark Coran

Last Issue's Answers:

1	6	7	2	4	5	3	8	9
9	3	4	6	1	8	2	5	7
2	8	5	3	9	7	4	1	6
8	5	2	1	3	9	7	6	4
7	1	9	4	8	6	5	2	3
3	4	6	7	5	2	1	9	8
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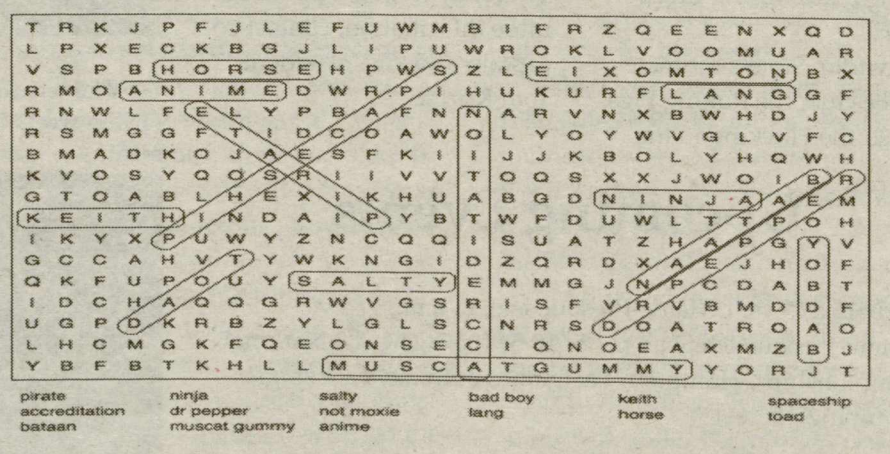
5	7	1	9	6	3	8	4	2
6	2	8	5	7	4	9	3	1



pirate accreditation bataan ninja dr pepper muscat gummy salty not moxie anime bad boy lang keith horse spaceship toad

Are you even using the answers, or do you just solve the puzzles and throw the paper away? So far I've had no proof that anyone even reads this damn box. Mudkip. The Game. Who was putting those inventive quips on The Buzz? Rule 34 this newspaper, I dare you. When the house is rocking, don't bother knocking. When the house is a-rocking, don't bother; come on in. For this week's answers, check back next week for the exciting concluding issue of this semester's CRITIC!

Lacrosse team taking growing pains in stride with first season

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

The Lyndon State lacrosse team had its share of frustrations as it wrapped up its inaugural season this week. That frustration was clearly shown in a very chippy 23-15 loss at home to Johnson State on Monday.

Despite winning only one game all year, junior captain Craig Salvagno sees a lot of promise and opportunity to grow the sport here at LSC.

"I think we'll be seeing a lot of kids come in for lacrosse in the future," Salvagno said, now that the team will be able to recruit students. He does admit however that lacrosse is not a big, popular sport in this area.

On a team of nearly two dozen players, Salvagno is one of only seven players who have experience playing lacrosse prior to coming to Lyndon State. He has been playing since he was in 6th grade. Salvagno says that leading a team which doesn't have that much experience in the sport has been a lot more fun than some people might think.

"It's new, it's sometimes frustrating, but it's mostly fun. It's fun expanding a program," Salvagno said, adding that trying a new sport can be part of the college experience. "It's about trying new things in college."

Salvagno, along with head coach Tim Tierney, essentially had to start from scratch when the team first started practicing. They had to teach the players, especially those who are just now learning the sport, the basic skills that are keys to playing the game the right way. In lacrosse, these skills include catching the ball in the webbing, shooting, and passing, along with the proper ways to play on both offense and defense.

"From there we moved on to putting everything into game mode. We learned a lot by playing our first couple of games," Salvagno said.

Now that they've played a full season together, Salvagno likes what he sees as the team gelled throughout the year. Even though he's the captain, he says there really aren't any particular players that the team needs to rely on for scoring.

"We've been playing more like a team lately. Everyone has stepped up as a group, we're relying on each other," Salvagno said. He added that everyone has spoken up when they've felt the need to and contributed their thoughts, both in practice and in the huddles during games.

Tierney has only seen positives from his team this year, despite the frustration of losing their last ten games. Of those losses, there are a couple of games that Tierney thinks the team could've won.

"We could've beat St. Joseph's (ME.). We almost beat Mitchell, but that was our first game ever. The team we have now would definitely beat Mitchell," Tierney said.

Even though he's the coach of a first-year team, Tierney says that this first year is the ultimate building year for the team because the expectations aren't that high.

"It's not hard. You just have to keep everything in perspective...The expectations are just to be able to field a team," Tierney said.

Like Salvagno, Tierney sees a bright future for lacrosse on this campus. He expects to see a number of good players coming to play here in the near future.

"The word's out about lacrosse here at LSC. Lacrosse is immensely popular in New Hampshire, in Maine, in Massachusetts, in Connecticut, in the surrounding states. We're going to see an influx of experienced high school players," Tierney said.

"Combined with this inaugural team, we'll be very competitive. This year's team set the tone for intensity."

Even with all the losses, Tierney liked how his players never gave up during each game, no matter what the score was. Lacrosse fans on campus can only hope that this kind of attitude can become a trademark of the new program.

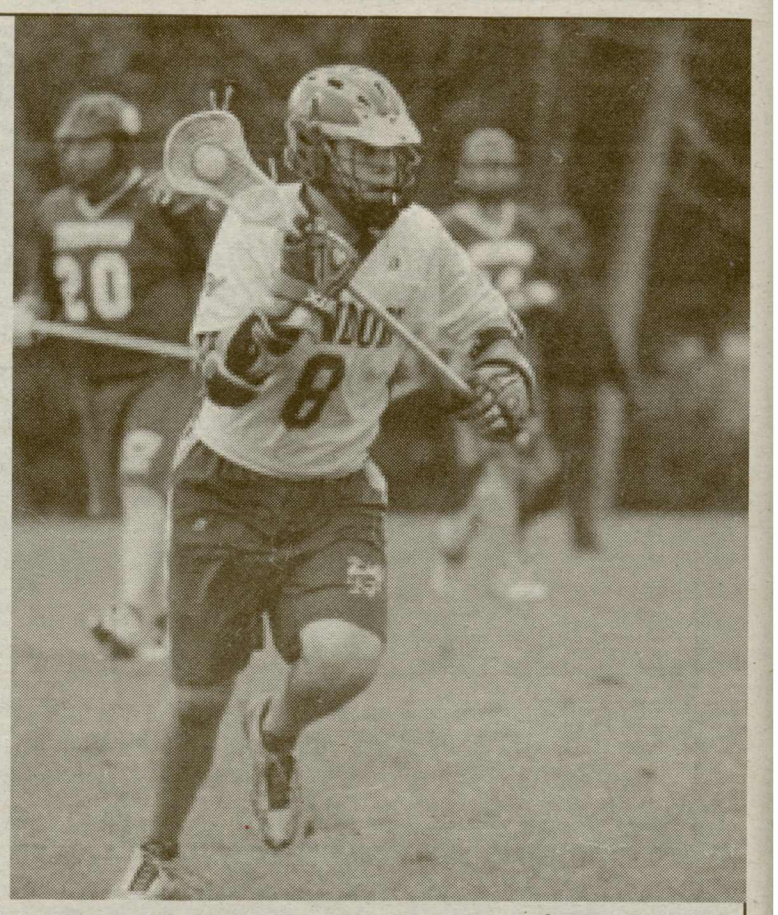


Photo by Jordan Royer

Junior attacker and captain Craig Salvago cradles the ball upfield during the Hornet's game against Johnson on Monday. Salvagno led the team in scoring this year with 31 goals and seven assists.

What's the buzz? The latest news on Lyndon State Hornets athletics

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

The Hornets baseball team has earned a bid to the USCAA national tournament in Hampton, Va.

The team learned about its tournament berth on Tuesday. The only problem they face now is how some of the players will take their finals, as part of the tournament will be taking place during finals week.

Lyndon State's ultimate frisbee club, the Puking Pigs, hosted the Hucking in the Woods Invitational on campus this past weekend. In addition to the Puking Pigs, the tournament also featured clubs from Green Mountain College and Johnson State College. The Puking Pigs won the tournament with a 15-5 victory in the championship match on Sunday.

The club will be hosting pickup games on the intramural field every Tuesday and Thursday from 2-4 p.m. For more information, contact co-captain and vice president Tom Kurtz.

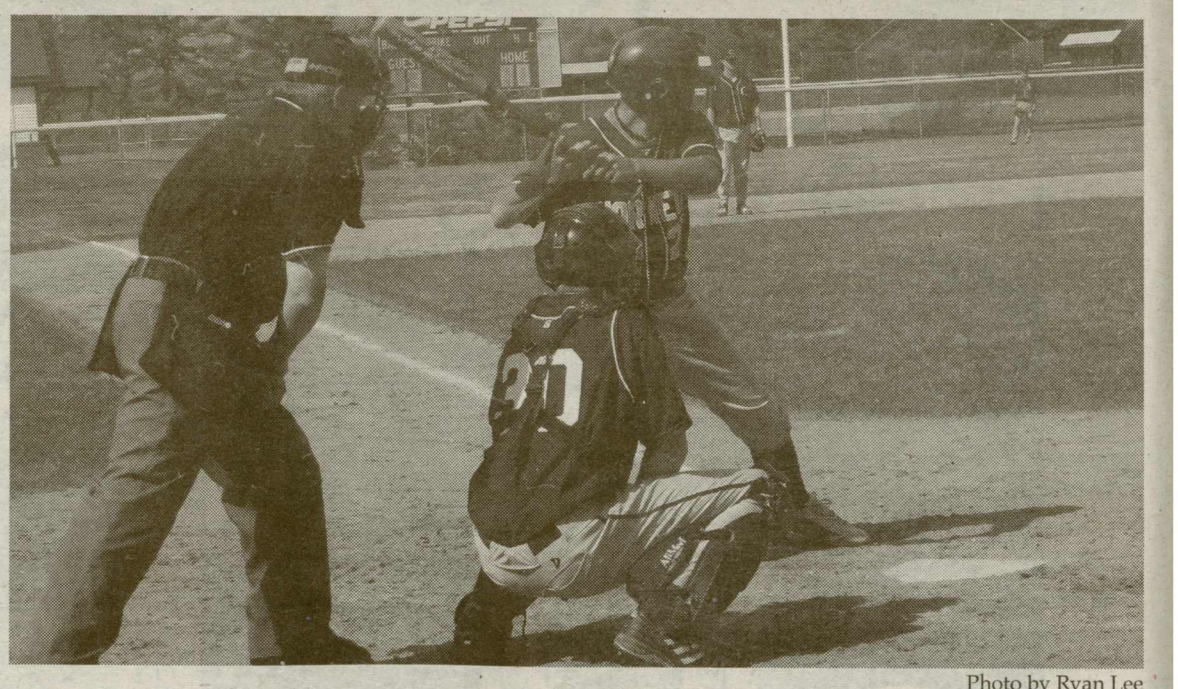


Photo by Ryan Lee

Hornets outfielder Rob Malloy waits for a pitch during the Hornets' game against UMaine-Farmington last week. The Hornets swept the Beavers twice in the last week to earn a berth in the national tournament.

Photo by Ryan Lee

Rick Kinsman (far right) of the Puking Pigs picks up the disc as Jason Shafer (in hat) moves to get open during the Hucking in the Woods Invitational this past weekend. The Puking Pigs won the Invitational.

Upcoming Events

Baseball: 5/3 vs. UMaine-Presque Isle, 11 a.m.; 5/4 vs. UMaine-Presque Isle, 11 a.m.; 5/10-5/1, 5@ USCAA National Championships, Hampton, Va. (games both days are single nine inning games)

Softball: 5/4 vs. College of St. Joseph's (Vt.), 2:30 p.m.; 5/8-5/10, @ USCAA National Championships, Decatur, Ill.

Notes: Baseball and softball games are held at the Darrell "Skip" Pound Baseball and Softball Fields. All softball games are doubleheaders. Game times and locations are subject to change due to weather and field conditions.

THE CRITIC

Serving the student voice of Lyndon State College

One copy free, extras 50 cents each

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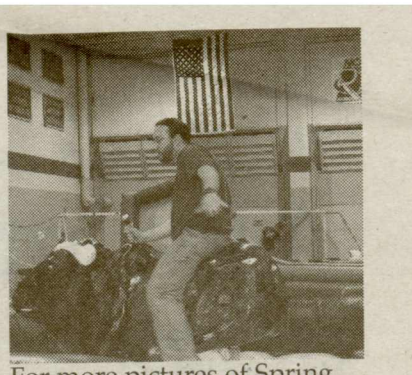


For more pictures of Spring Day go to page 6

Faculty suit up for ceremony

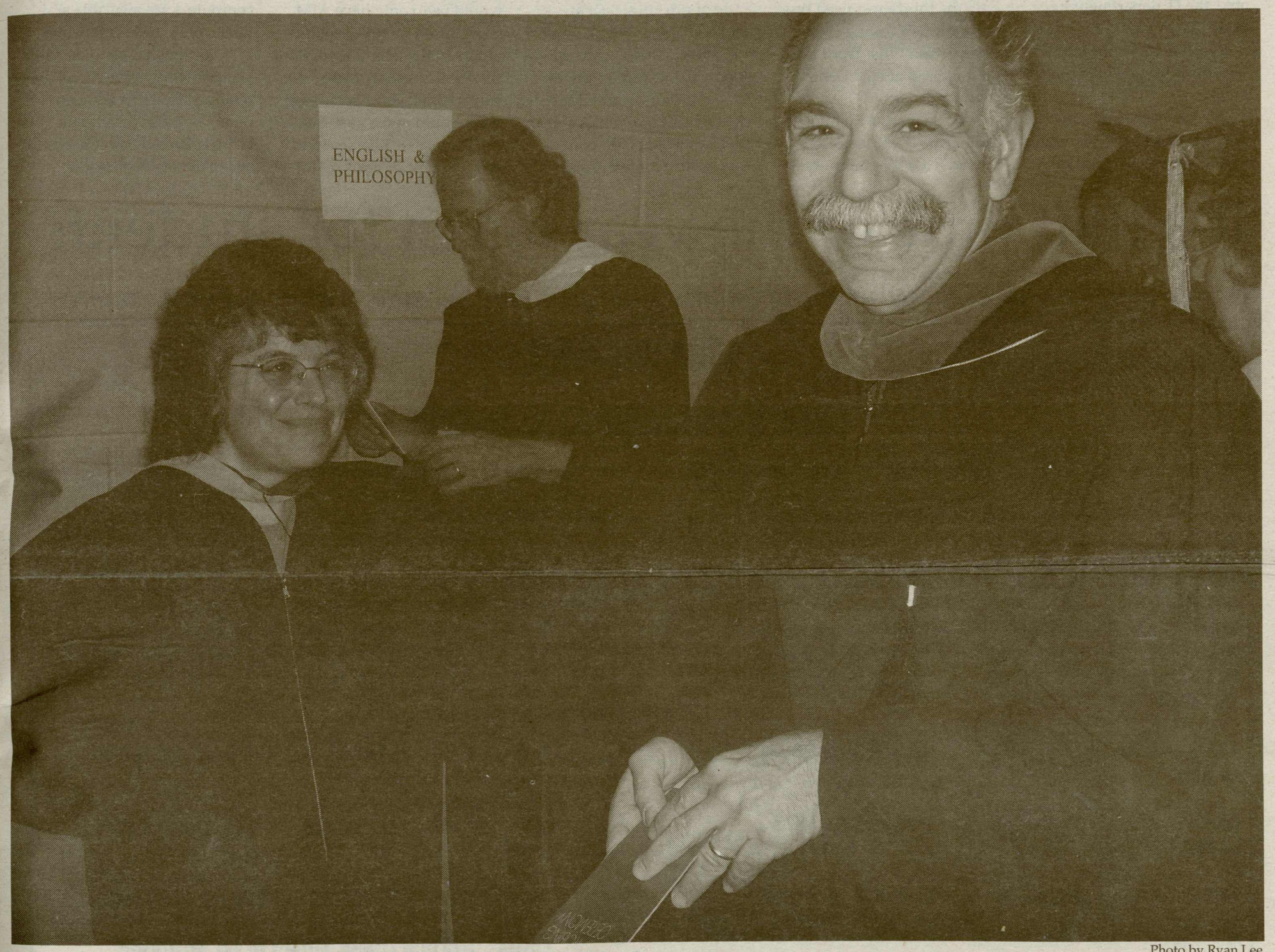


Photo by Ryan Lee

Deficit woes lead to budget freeze

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.
Critic Editor

To make sure the budget is balanced by the end of the fiscal year, the college has taken measures to control spending.

"Effective immediately, all spending for supplies, services, travel, and equipment will be frozen until the end of the fiscal year," Wayne Hamilton, dean of administration, said in a memo.

The freeze affects departments, such as Digital and Graphic Arts, that have not completed their purchases yet. Some members of the LSC community, who did not wish to be named, were concerned that the fees paid by students as part of lab and course fees would go to paying the college's bills and not course supplies.

"Our first priority is to balance the budget," Hamilton said.

"Academic departments anticipating equipment and supply purchases from course fees and lab fees should submit their requests to Dean Dalton," Hamilton also said in the memo. "If departmental funds are currently available, purchase requests for items may be considered prior to June 30, 2008. Essential purchases relating to summer 2008 courses should be specifically identified. Departments currently without available funds in their budget will not be able to purchase items until fiscal 2009 (July 1, 2008)."

"I don't think the message was clear when it first came out," Sheilah Ladd, LSC Controller, said. Ladd also said that the freeze only affects the timing of a department's purchasing.

"I respect very much that fees paid to a department should go to that department," Hamilton said. If money comes out of a department to help pay for something else, that department will get its money back as soon as possible, Hamilton said.

"I hope that come June 30, all of this will be moot," Hamilton said. June 30 is when the fiscal year ends.

Students looking for work at the college this summer may end up being affected in a much more direct way, however. "Direct hire of student workers is being curtailed for summer 2008. Departments that will have funding have already been notified and no additional funding is available. This does not affect students with federal CWS funding," Hamilton said later in the memo.

The freeze comes as the result of a $500,000-$900,000 budget deficit announced by the LSC administration April 21. Many factors contributed to the deficit, including energy costs rising 50 percent. This also affects travel.

"All travel must be pre-approved by the appropriate dean. Employees should confirm approval by email prior to traveling. Faculty travel reimbursed under the professional development provision in the contract is excluded from this requirement. Employees traveling from the LSC campus should use college vehicles whenever possible," Hamilton said in his memo.

AIM may go the way of the dinosaurs

By Ben Holbrook
Managing Editor

When one of the most often used programs in the computer labs is non-educational it can create problems for students who need to get work done.

With new software available, the IT department has been able to monitor ten computers in the 24-hour lab to see which programs get the most use.

IT has been compiling the data for about a month, which was when they acquired the new software, Mike Dente, head of IT, said.

The three most used programs in the computer lab are Internet Explorer, which was used the most. AIM came in second and Microsoft Word was the third most used program, Dente said.

Even though Word was only the third most used program it wasn't a huge concern since, "it isn't like Word isn't getting used at all," Dente said.

Jeb Stewart, a math major, didn't care if AIM was removed from the computers because, "I don't use it."

Although nothing has been decided as to whether AIM will be removed from the lab computers, it would be done in order to make the labs more efficient, Dente said.

"Recreational activities like AIM are lowest on the scale of priorities," Dente said.

The real issue isn't with people using AIM but with the people who use AIM exclusively, Dente said. Another problem is that AIM contributes to a large number of the noise complaints within the labs, Dente said.

Kasey Cushman, a sophomore, wasn't concerned about AIM being removed because, "I don't even have AIM but it would bother me if I had something to do and people were only using AIM."

A possible compromise would be to only have AIM on a certain number of computers in the labs. Shandi Barclay, senior social sciences major, didn't think removing AIM would make any difference because, "people could still use AIM Express on Internet Explorer."

Mike Thatcher, a senior social science major, shared similar feelings because, "I'm graduating in two weeks so it doesn't matter."

Dente would also like to have "lab maps" outside of the computer labs, which would show students which computers are available and which ones aren't available.

Nothing has been decided yet as to whether AIM will be removed from the lab computers because data is still being collected and it needs to be looked at, Dente said.

It's that time of the year again for students

If you were worried about missing exams then fear not because we've got you covered

Spring 2008

Final Examination Schedule

Normal Class Meets at:		"Final Exam" will be held on:		Normal Class Meets at:		"Final Exam" will be held on:	
MWF	8:00	WED 5/14	8:OOAM-IO:OOAM	T TH	8:00	TUE 5/13	8:OOAM-IO:OOAM
MWF	9:00	MON 5/12	8:OOAM-IO:OOAM	T TH	9:30	TUE 5/13	10:15AM-12:15PM
MWF	10:05	WED 5/14	10:15AM-12:15PM	T TH	11:00	THR 5/15	8:OOAM-IO:OOAM
MWF	11:10	MON 5/12	12:30PM- 2:30PM	TT H	1:30	TUE 5/13	12:30PM- 2:30PM
M W F Or MW	12:15	MON 5/12	10:15AM-12:15PM	T TH	3:00	TUE 5/13	2:45PM- 4:45PM
MWF or MW	1:30	WED 5/14	12:30PM- 2:30PM	T TH	4:30	THR 5/15	10:15AM-12:15PM
MWF or MW	3:00	MON 5/12	2:45PM- 4:45PM	T	6:00	TUE 5/13	5:OOPM- 7:OOPM
MWF or MW	4:30	WED 5/14	2:45 PM- 4:45 PM	TH	6:00	WED 5/14	7:15PM- 9:15PM
M	6:00	MON 5/12	5:OOPM- 7:OOPM	Other	Normal Class Times to be arranged		
W	6:00	WED 5/14	5:OOPM- 7:OOPM				

Arranged Times Available for Exams
M 7:15-9:15 and T 7:15-9:15

Free condoms on LSC campus for everyone

By Catherine Story
Business Manager

"We have a virtually unlimited number of condoms," Avery Williams, a Resident Assistant in Arnold said.

The condoms are Durex extra lubricated and they cost over a dollar a piece at Rite Aid.

"All RAs on campus have condoms as well as all Resident Hall Directors and the Brown House and they are all completely free," Williams said.

Some students are shy about the free condoms on campus.

"I've had some students come in and try to start a conversation at four in the morning," Williams said.

"I've also had students come wearing just their towel," Williams said.

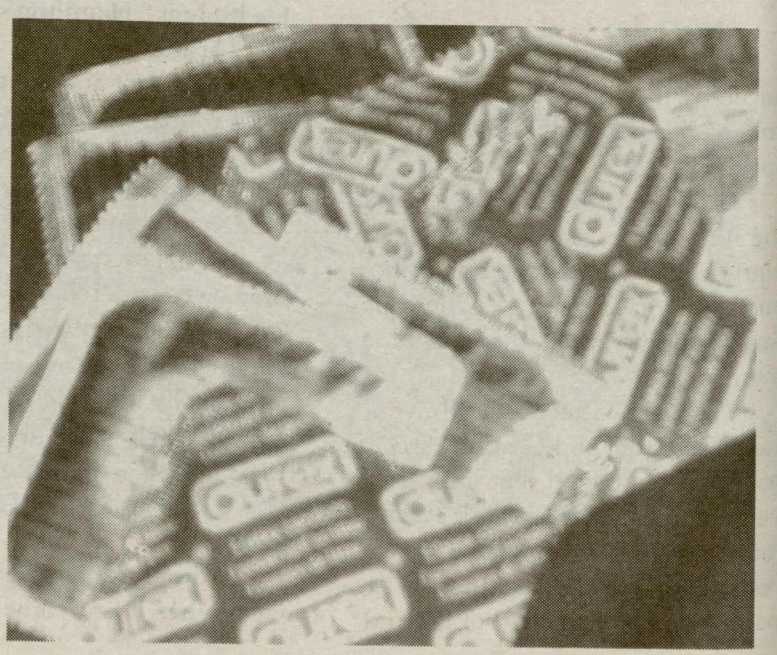
Williams is happy that students are being safe and doesn't mind the early morning interruptions.

There have been rumors on campus that the free condoms on campus are not as good as the ones that can be purchased in the store.

"At the beginning of last semester people were complaining about the condoms breaking," Williams said.

A group of men in Williams' suit filled a condom with water and it didn't break even when it expanded to the size of the sink. Williams feels that the condoms are perfectly safe.

"It's more likely that students just don't know how to put them on correctly," Williams said.



I promise this letter is not lame

By Keith Whitcomb
Critic Editor

Wild dogs attacked and ate a prominent LSC official yesterday.

That's a lie, I just didn't want to open with something boring and make anyone think this was just a lame "I'm graduating/goodbye" editorial. One of the first things I was taught as a journalist was to never be boring, and if you have to be boring, don't lead with it.

I wanted to take this space to thank The Critic's staff in print, as I likely won't be able to articulate myself well enough in person. I'm a writer for a reason, you see; speeches really aren't my thing and the more important the thing I have to say is, the harder a time I have saying it.

When I became editor of The Critic, I was worried. Mary Wheeler, the editor before me, along with Dan Williams, The Critic's new adviser, had set the bar extremely high. So high, the school had seen fit to give us a larger office in the spot where the Writing Center used to be. Space is limited around campus and there were plenty of other people deserving of that space, so I definitely had something to live up to when I took over.

I lost sleep in the month or so leading up to the start of the fall semester. It would have been all too easy to do a worse job than what had been done before and the thought of the paper going to hell in a hand basket under my watch was one of the worst things I'd ever had to think about in regards to academics in my school career.

That didn't happen and it's due solely to the fact that on The Critic's staff were people who actually cared how the paper turned out. My first pleasant surprise was my first managing editor, Tabitha Fitzgerald. In case you didn't know, it's the managing editor's job to collect all of our articles and edit them. It's a thankless and difficult job and readers are quite quick to point out your mistakes.

Amanda Wozniak, my layout editor that first semester, seemed to take an actual interest in what the pages looked like. There's no right way to design a page, but there are plenty of wrong ones. Andrew Koch, the sports editor, made sure I never had to think about the sports page. Ever. Making the Fun Page every week is far, far, far, from being fun, so Eric Downing took care of that for me. The Critic's Web site and Apple computers are strange things, but Josh Gervais made them no big deal. The list of people and how they saved my bacon goes on. Check The Critic's letter policy/credits for the list of people I owe big.

Oh look, I ended up writing a Thank You list. I hate Thank You lists. I don't think I've ever heard a Thank You speech I cared about that I wasn't either in or making.

I'll bring this back to you, LSC, if you're still reading. Studies show the majority of people don't read this far.

I wrote a while ago that students on this campus need to give more of a crap about what they do here. The reason The Critic hasn't bombed is because it's been lucky to have staff members who actually care about it. They seem to be here for more than just a grade and three credits (although no doubt that's part of it).

There isn't a single thing on this campus that couldn't be improved by more student involvement. The food, SGA, overpriced television screens, the dorms, the course schedule, you name it, it can be made better by you and your buddies. I can't count the number of students I've talked to who thought they had no control.

I'll end with the phrase most common to college seniors. I'm graduating, so this place is your problem now.

By Jordan Royer
Sex Columnist

Holy Sheet

Sex columnist says goodbye

Taint back Vermont

To start out I would like to thank everyone who picked up the Critic each week to read Holy Sheet and to everyone who supported my efforts of putting the school paper on edge.

With that being said, I will now try to make my final column the best and most unforgettable of them all.

For months now I have been talking about watching porn, but let me now venture into making porn, whether it be for money or for fun. A few weeks ago there was an article about being a porn star but to be honest I didn't read it. I remember the title though- who wants to be a porn star? That was all I needed to read. ME! Through conversation around school I heard the story was about the amount of STDs in the porn industry, but that doesn't stop me from wanting to make some good old homemade porn. What is better than watching porn? You are right, watching porn where you are the star. And what better way to critique your performance between the sheets than to watch it afterwards.

I will say this though, don't be a creep and hide the camera on your partner so they don't know you are taping. Save your creeping for facebook, America's number one tool for stalking. But anyway, back to more about the video taping. I will be honest, I don't have a lot of experience when it comes to this subject but I know it would certainly turn me on to video a woman masturbating. Call me crazy, but that would be hot. Get some nice foreplay action shots and then throw the camera on the tripod and put the 'tripod' to work.

A few weeks ago I was talking with some buddies about weird places to masturbate. I am sure most of you can guess, I was the King of Cuff. Surprisingly though, and I am sure everyone is quite thankful, I have never fed the geese on the LSC campus. But a few days still remain until graduation...kidding.

Now back to my title. Taint back Vermont. Many people will argue that I have tainted LSC with my crude comments and lack of respect for the community and I am sorry to anyone that feels that way, but I wouldn't change what I have done and through it all I have become not only a better writer, but a stronger person.

In closing I again say thank you to my friends and family and everyone else who supported me. Have fun, have sex and most importantly, have fun having sex.

Position of the Week- Prison guard

Letter Policy:
The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must include the author's phone number and address. The Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:

critic@lyndonstate.edu or

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Reporters: Catherine Story, Ben Holbrook, Gwen Cook, Jennifer Ingram, Matt Vercillo
Adviser: Dan Williams

By Gwen Cook
Critic Columnist

Ugh. Its finals time again. Most college students, me included, are completely jam packed with last minute papers, projects, and studying. There's barely any time to do anything else but study, and certainly no time to prepare yourself something to eat. So with this article, the last of the semester, I wanted to do every student at the campus a favor and do a snack article. I'm talking quick and easy things designed to go along with your jam-packed day. It may not all be brain food, but it's sure going to hit the spot when it's needed most.

Cream cheese and cherry dip
Ingredients-
1 package of cream cheese
1 jar of cherries (drained and sliced)
1 box of graham crackers
Procedure-
Mix cream cheese and cherries in a small bowl. Spread over graham crackers.

Microwavable nachos
Ingredients-
1 bag of tortilla chips
1 jar of salsa
1 jar of cheez whiz
Procedure-
Spread desired amount of chips on a plate. Pour salsa and cheez whiz over the top and microwave for 45 seconds.

Mini PBJ's
Ingredients-
1 sleeve of Ritz crackers
1 jar of peanut butter
1 jar of jelly
Procedure-
Lay out crackers on a plate. Spread peanut butter and jelly on them and top with another cracker.

Formerly British, at home in the States

By Norman Johnson
Special to The Critic

"You get in about 6 a.m. Unless you sleep well on a plane, things are a bit bleary," said Bill Barber about the 6 ½ hour plane ride from Boston to Heathrow in London.

Barber, fiftyish, well over six feet tall, has a basketball center's build, Celtic-Graying loose-curled hair and blue eyes. By today's airline seating standards, a flight of that length is pure misery for anyone of Barber's size.

On trips to England, Barber and his family now rent a car to make sure they visit all the relatives.

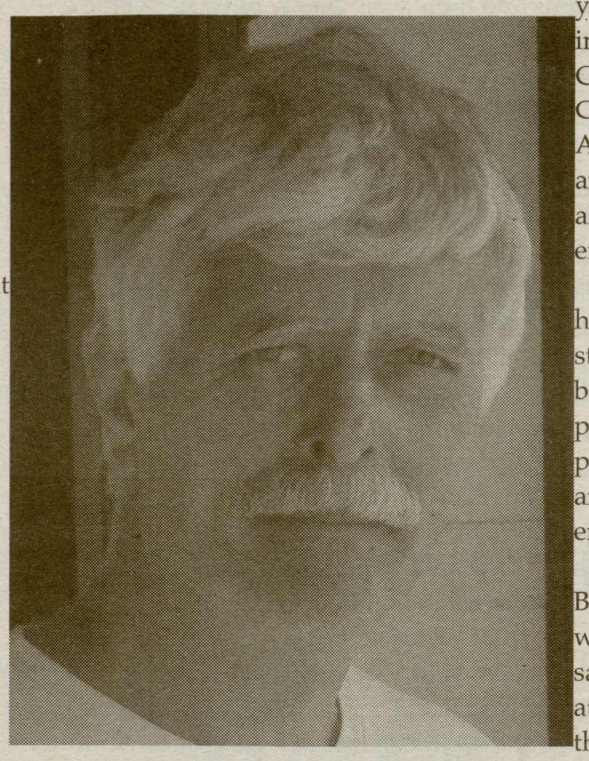
"You don't want to offend people," he says about making sure everyone gets a visit.

"With the way the dollar is, it'd be a lot cheaper for them to see us." Barber interjects, however, "one of the things about going back is seeing how much your relatives have aged."

He talks about seeing his mother age and a young girl he saw on his last visit who is now old enough to go to a pub.

Barber is from Harwich, England, a town with a history going back to the Roman occupation.

"You still see Roman walls around town still being used." Barber said. "There's an old crane down on the docks dating back to the 1600s that looks like a big hamster cage—" and he details how people walking in a big round cage power the gears that operate the still functional dock crane.



"When I graduated from high school, I worked for the customs and excise department on the docks," Barber said.

"I realized I didn't want to end up like those guys, and I quit. My father went ballistic."

For Barber's father, it was like throwing away a perfectly good job to go to school.

At the time, College was free in England. Barber went to night school, worked off expenses picking grapes or construction work on the continent. Later, he spent what he calls "a four year stint," traveling through Canada, the U.S., Central and South America, India, and Russia. He's also seen far western China.

He worked his way into polar studies at Cambridge, a masters program for people with school and work experience.

Since then, Barber has worked, as he says, "on the ice," at both ends of the globe, also in Greenland and Alaska, contracting services to polar study groups.

Barber, his wife Victoria, and son Max live in St. Johnsbury, Vt. He built a super-insulated house, what he calls "Greenland style," off the electrical grid near Marshfield on 150 acres, is remodeling a house in St. J. and has projects in Kentucky. He thinks of going back to work on the ice, but doesn't know when.

Harwich, with it's old Roman walls and Napoleonic War era tower, is on the coast northeast of London, with the Netherlands to the east across the North Sea.

"They say you can go anywhere in England, and never be more than 80 miles from the sea," said Barber.

"There's something about growing up on the sea, it's very calming. Every day after school we'd go down to the shore when the tide was out.

Sometimes the fog came in while you were out there and you couldn't see the land."

Barber, a U.S. citizen now, is thoroughly adapted to life in the states but his speech still retains that distinctive British elegance. After a moment he says,

"I miss the attitudes, the gentleness of the culture. When I was working on a boat in Antarctica, we stopped in the Falklands. They were so gracious, so English," and he recounts the way Falklanders entertained them with English tea and biscuits, a bit of England in spite of thousands of miles of cold Atlantic between them.

LSC community shares thoughts on Iraq

By Nat Forcier
Special to The Critic

Nick Davis and Matt Howard, veterans who served multiple tours of duty in Afghanistan and Iraq, provided some insights into the war in the last issue. Members of the National Guard have also been called upon to serve in this Global War on Terror.

When Charlie Forrest, LSC staff member, was sent to Iraq as a member of the Guard, Harry Swett, LSC staff member and Vietnam veteran, gave him a small Vermont state flag. Forrest took it with him and then returned it to Swett on a visit home months later.

Swett asked him to keep it for the remainder of his tour, but Forrest insisted it stay stateside. He added his name and unit numbers to the flag in white and it still hangs in College mailroom today. Forrest came home, but there is still the possibility that his unit will be called upon to serve again in this war.

Swett said it is "such an ironic thing" when American citizens "scoff" at our privileges. "We take it for granted [while others in the world are] crawling just to get the right to vote," Swett said. David Ballou, LSC professor and Vietnam Era veteran, also advises that students "exercise your right to vote" while there is no draft that makes it compelling.

When asked how we might best respond to the war, he repeated, "That is a hard question to answer other than with a vote." Pat Shine, LSC professor and veterans advocate, acknowledged that "people's lives are hard" and we tend to avoid painful issues, but we need to become empowered as "agents of change in our society. . . . If people thought they could make a difference, they might." She also reminds that "politicians are beholden to the people."

Swett said the media provides only "a snippet of what [soldiers] see" an d is "so manipulative and so controlling." He looks to alternative sources of information for full coverage of opinions and events. "Those opposed are more vocal," Swett said. "Let 'em be -- I don't like it, but . . . . they have a right to do so." He served in order to ensure that right remains in place.

Buck Beliles, LSC professor, "couldn't sit still" as the case for the war was advanced "based on lies. . . . Wasn't enough to talk about opposing the war." His family joined in protests on campus, in New York City, and later in Washington DC. In spite of the size of protests, Beliles was "so disappointed" by the press he holds in such high regard.

"They are not really doing their job anymore" and this leads to a "breakdown of our democracy," he suggested. For Beliles, it is important to "give play to another side" through alternative websites and print publications. Fellow faculty member Shine would like to "invite faculty to imbed important information into our courses. . . . Students are interested in learning more."

As the media begins to critique itself, it is hoped that films like Buying the War will be shown to all audiences in an effort to spread media literacy. We have developed a certain savvy when it comes to advertising, but we must see how those same techniques are applied to our most readily available sources of news. A healthy skepticism must be cultivated.

At the same time, it is of the utmost importance to support our troops and returning veterans. Davis stressed the power of mail as a morale booster. Swett recalled the importance of the written letter when he was a sergeant. Ballou remembered the same and gives a nod to cell phone technology.

Davis finds that movies that "over glorify" the military do a disservice and recommends the Valley of Elah. CAB could be showing important productions on campus: Body of War, Fog of War, Why We Fight, Buying the War, Bush's War, Bad Voodoo's War, and Taxi to the Dark Side. It is an investment in time, but all warrant viewing. Some are available for online viewing. The Winter Soldier hearings are also online. Iraq Veterans Against the War "implicating themselves in murder," said Howard, discuss the errors they saw occurring in Iraq and Afghanistan.

New Hampshire Guardsman Jose Pequeno, Sugar Hill police chief, was wounded in an attack that also killed a Vermont Guardsman. Anne Brown, Director of Americorps at LSC, also runs a summer quilting program that distributes quilts through Quilts of Valor and it was important to her one should reach this NH neighbor.

"He has a young family and received severe head wounds . . . . He still is not home (after years of) countless procedures and surgeries. . . . His wife called me and thanked me. It is so sad . . . ."

Another recipient wrote a poignant thank you note to Brown's group. Richard Jadick was presented with a quilt while attending a conference:

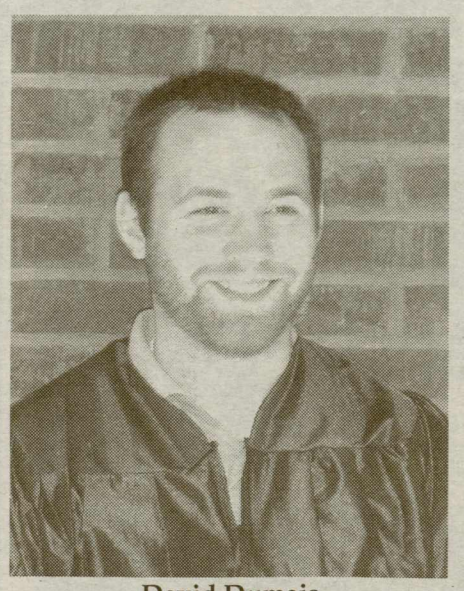
"I am not wounded but have treated many of the wounded in Iraq during the campaign for Fallujah in 2004. I was there with 1st Bn 8th Marines and was merely at this conference to support those who were home and having trouble navigating a convoluted post combat course. [But] . . . to some degree we all return with wounds and whether physical or emotional they never go away. Thank you for understanding and giving me such a tangible piece of comfort."

We all may not be able to offer such gifts to our troops and veterans, but we can exercise the rights and privileges they are ready to defend for us. We can also send mail and pay attention. This is a time of war.

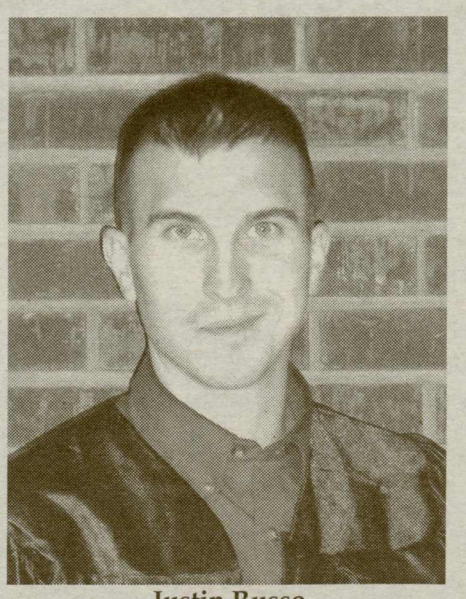
Students move on out to a better - or worse - future

By Catherine Story
Critic Staff

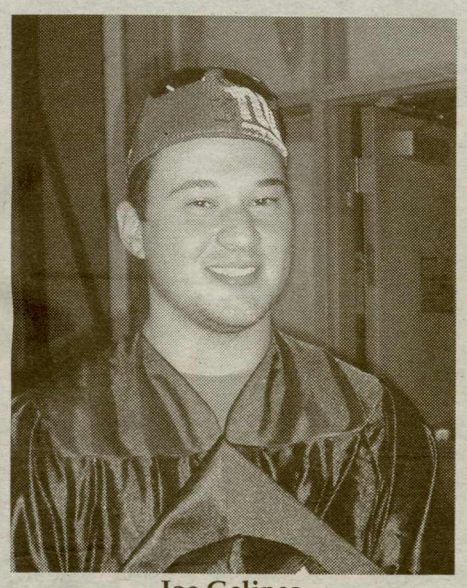
Amanda Wozniak
Graphic Design and English
"I'm working at the country club to work as a waitress and bartender and I'll be job searching this summer for a job in graphic design."



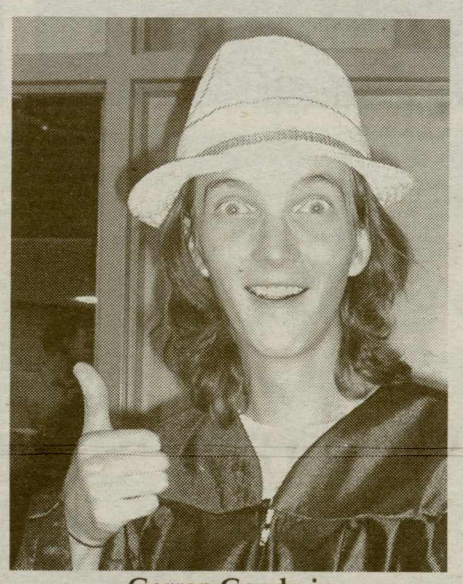
David Dumais
Graphic Design
"I'm moving home and looking for a job and trying to get bills figured out."



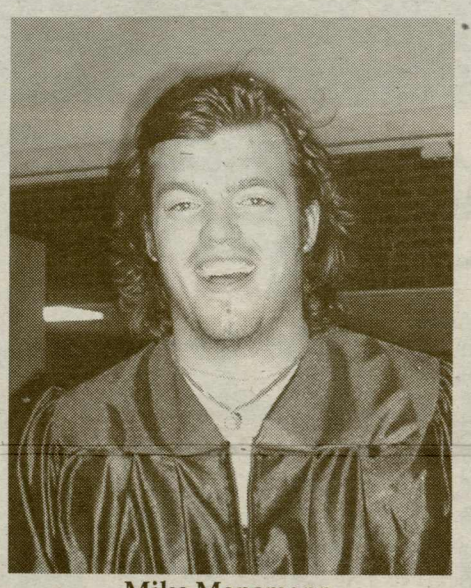
Justin Russo
Graphic Design
"I'll be looking for a non-construction job. I didn't pay all of this money to work construction."



Joe Gelines
Recreation, GIS mapping
"I'm going home and being a bum at home."



Gerren Goodwin
Recreation, ski resort management
"I'm working at Suicide Six ski area and then moving to California in the fall."



Mike Mansmann
Adventure based recreation
"I am working at Kingdom Trails and then I'm looking to work at Whistler."

Above photos by Catherine Story

2008 Messages to Students, find more on The Critic website!

1. Megan Monette
Message from her parents: "Congratulations, Megan! We are so proud of you."

2. James V. Palmarozza
Message from family: "Congratulations on your graduation Jim! You have a bright future ahead of you. We are so proud of everything you have accomplished. Love, Mom, Dad & Rebecca."

3. Alex Rapice
Message from his parents: "These four years went by so fast! We are very proud of you. Go west young man! GO WEST! Good luck in pursuing all of your dreams out west. Love, Mom & Dad."

4. Rodney Mercier
Message from his family: "Congratulations Rod! You worked hard for this. We hope you get the job you want. Love, Mom, Dad, Randy & Mindy."

5. Tracy Anketell
Message from her parents: "We are very proud of you! Love, Mom & Dad."

6. Kaitlin Letourneau
Message from her parents; "Congratulations Katie, we are so proud of you! Love, Mom & Dad."

7. Jeffrey Scott Dickinson
Message from his family: "Congratulations on your achievement on this wonderful day. We are so proud of you. Best wishes for your continued journey, may it be filled with happiness and love, Your Parents & Sister."

8. Matthew Kittredge
Message from his parents: "Congratulations! You have done a great job! Love, Mom & Dad."

9. Andrew Shepeluk
Message from his parents: "Congratulations & good luck, Andy! Love, Mom & Dad."

10. Amanda Wozniak
Message from her family: "Congratulations Amanda! All that hard work has paid off. Good luck for a very bright future- we're with you every step of the way. With love, Mum, Tim, Kristen, Josh, Ryan, Cori & Matt."

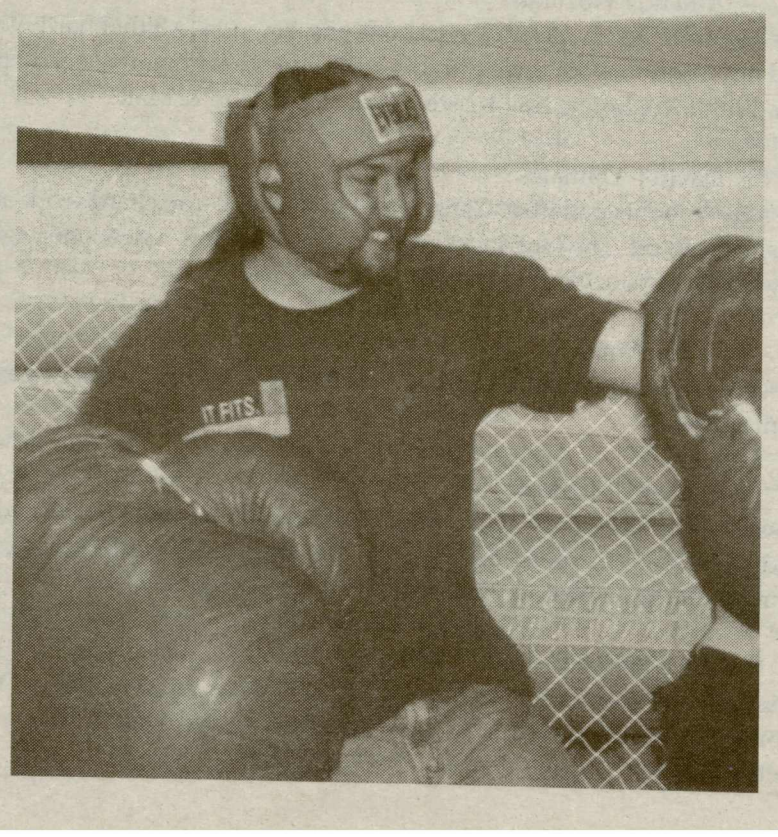
11. David J. Dumais
Message from his parents: "Congratulations David! Your hard work and dedication has paid off. The long journey has ended and now a new one begins. We are very proud of you. Good luck - We love you!"

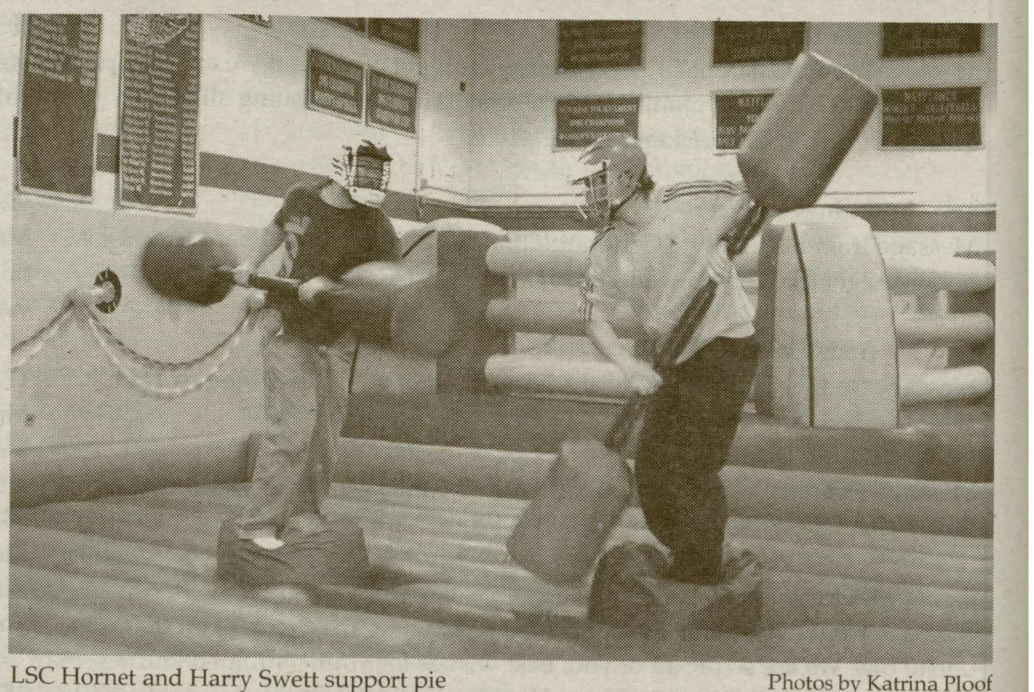
12. Sarah Winans
Message from her parents: "Great job Sarah! We are very proud of you. Love, Mom & Dad."

13. Russell A. Lafleur
Message from his family: Russ, we are so proud of you on this day, your day of graduating from Lyndon State College. Your future is bright; we look forward to your continued successes. Love, Mom, Dad & Craig."

14. Dane Haskell
Message from his family: "Dane, congratulations on a job well done! We are all so proud of you! Best wishes for a bright future! Love, Dad, Brittany, Mimi & Uncle Ritchey."

Spring Day 2008





LSC Hornet and Harry Swett support pie throwing — Photos by Katrina Ploof

Middle: Bull riding competition — Photo by Catherine Story

Bottom: Keith Whitcomb and his brother Kevin duke it out — Photos by Katrina Ploof

Fun Page

"Let me start off by saying that in 2000 I said, 'Vote for me. I'm an agent of change.' In 2004, I said, 'I'm not interested in change --I want to continue as president.' Every candidate has got to say 'change.' That's what the American people expect." --George W. Bush

Marvel's Rivals Appear!

M	D	R	Q	G	I	O	K	I	Z	H	J	K	U	M	L	V	T	B	G	R	N	E	A	T
U	A	T	R	N	C	A	I	G	X	P	A	J	N	T	U	C	I	Y	B	E	O	L	X	B
C	O	Q	L	I	A	H	N	A	M	R	E	P	U	S	A	K	B	A	J	L	I	T	N	C
B	W	F	K	N	O	M	H	J	F	G	N	V	H	F	O	T	T	F	N	Q	T	Y	J	Y
O	Y	S	M	R	D	W	A	S	U	P	A	P	P	A	O	L	E	O	V	A	S	B	U	L
T	X	S	Z	B	A	A	I	U	A	C	W	L	N	M	P	C	R	G	C	U	E	A	G	R
R	B	D	W	L	B	P	Z	P	Q	L	E	E	F	I	G	W	Z	R	H	U	U	F	L	I
M	T	N	H	F	L	V	N	C	J	A	F	Y	W	K	M	W	L	C	P	S	Q	N	N	G
T	J	A	B	T	G	O	G	W	U	K	D	S	S	O	C	S	U	L	U	X	E	I	H	R
W	Y	M	C	G	V	I	G	I	L	A	N	T	E	A	R	I	P	O	K	P	H	B	X	E
R	E	T	N	U	H	N	A	M	N	A	I	T	R	A	M	R	R	X	T	Z	T	O	N	W
W	P	A	F	W	S	B	G	J	L	Z	R	K	Q	F	O	O	A	F	F	O	S	R	T	O
D	G	B	O	F	T	B	T	H	H	O	U	N	R	E	T	A	L	N	E	E	R	G	C	P
V	O	X	Y	L	J	B	T	A	K	R	O	H	T	U	L	X	E	L	E	R	F	L	M	Q
Y	S	L	S	N	X	W	N	W	Z	P	N	S	L	O	J	O	E	K	Y	E	J	P	S	N
N	F	T	F	O	O	A	T	F	J	Z	F	S	F	I	R	K	D	Y	D	N	R	O	Z	V
R	E	J	A	Q	O	E	J	N	L	E	V	R	A	M	N	I	A	T	P	A	C	G	T	L

Ah, DC Comics. Makes you wonder who is the coolest superhero...

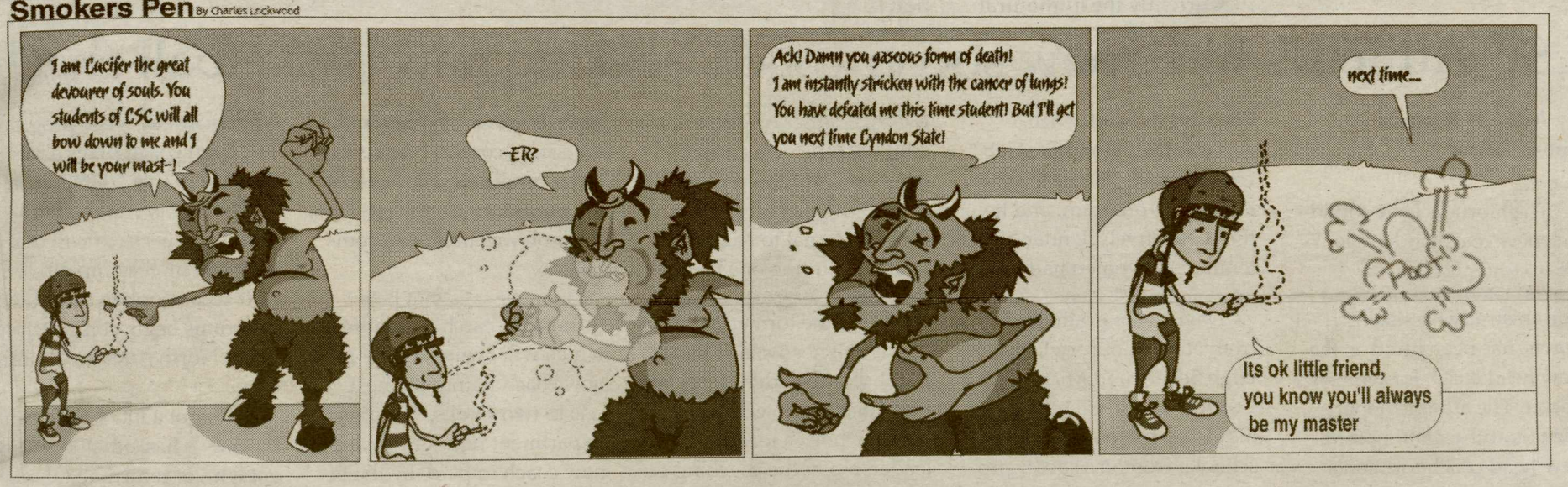
Superman Robin Lex Luthor Batman Flash Aquaman The Question
Captain Marvel Green Arrow Vigilante Martian Manhunter Rick Flag
Green Latern Power Girl

Hard As Hell: End of the Year

1	2						8	
6								
	9	3	5					
8						6		
	4		7	6				2
					9	7	1	5
		7	3				6	
				7		9		
			9		1	5	7	

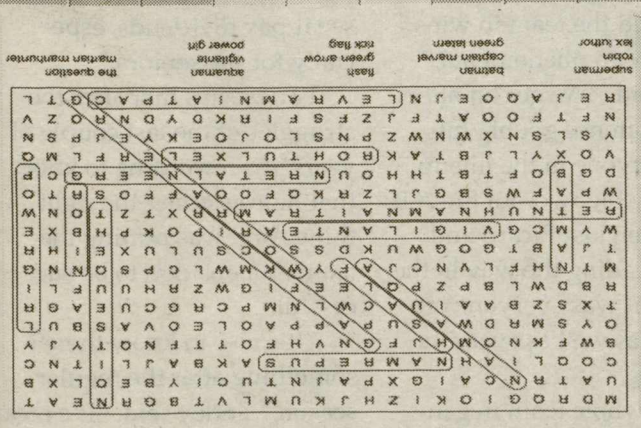
Puzzle generated with Java Sudoku Version 1.0.1, released under the General Public License by Samantha Yen. Kudos to Dan Brook for finding it!

Smokers Pen By Charles Lockwood



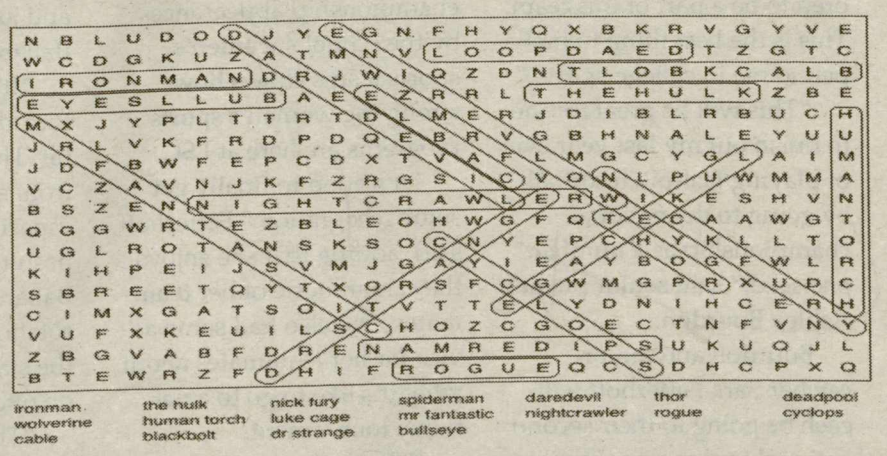
THIS ISSUES ANSWERS!!!
THEY'RE REALLY SMALL AND UPSIDE DOWN, SO YOU CAN'T CHEAT BY ACCIDENT!!! I RULE!

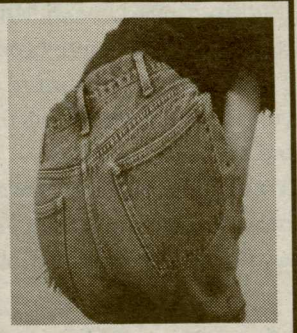
4	7	5	1	2	6	8	9	3
1	3	9	6	7	8	2	5	4
8	9	2	5	4	3	7	1	9
5	1	7	9	8	4	6	3	2
3	4	6	2	5	1	9	7	8
6	2	4	8	1	5	3	9	7
9	5	1	7	3	2	4	8	6
2	8	3	4	6	9	1	5	7
7	6	8	3	9	7	5	2	1



Last Issue's Answers:

6	9	1	2	8	4	3	5	7
2	5	4	9	7	3	8	6	1
8	3	7	5	1	6	4	2	9
9	4	8	3	2	7	5	1	6
5	2	3	4	6	1	7	9	8
7	1	6	8	5	9	2	3	4
3	6	9	7	4	5	1	8	2
1	7	2	6	3	8	9	4	5
4	8	5	1	9	2	6	7	3





'Kay Y'all, have a great, idealistic, fun-filled summer. I swear I shall miss you all very much. Let me say to you that you made me assess my personal self-worth. So let me just say,

THANKS!!!

Out from my heart...
Onto yours...

Thank you, LSC!

Are you even using the answers, or do you just solve the puzzles and throw the paper away? So far I've had no proof that anyone even reads this damn box. Mudkip. The Game. Who was putting those inventive quips on The Buzz? Rule #2 this newspaper, I dare you. When the house is rocking, don't bother knocking. When the house is a-rocking, don't bother; come on in. For this week's answers, turn the damn paper upside down, for crying out loud!
See y'all next year!

Reconstruction underway on athletic fields

By Jennifer Ingram
Critic Staff

The construction of a new field and an amphitheater, and improvements to the varsity and intramural fields are in the works. The intramural fields are hoped to be completed by the fall of 2008 and the varsity field is hoped to be completed by the fall of 2009.

The varsity field which is located closest to the gym needs to be overhauled. There have been no improvements made to the field in nearly 20 years, Chris Ummer, Director of Athletics, said.

At this point in time, the plan is for the varsity field to be overhauled and then to have grass reseeded.

The varsity field has taken a beating due to the fact that there are so many events that happen on the field. In addition to games, class graduations, practices for soccer and summer camps all take place on the field.

The graduation ceremonies are rough on the fields because of the tent that is set up and the thousands of people that walk across the field. Last year the tent was on the varsity field for nearly a month due to the fact that the tent had to be dried before it could be taken down and it kept raining so the tent never was able to dry completely.

When a certain area of any space does not get precipitation for nearly a month, it does a certain amount of damage to the surface. In fact, according to Chris Ummer, the field was in such bad condition in the fall that the soccer team's practices were relocated to the Lyndon Town School.

Currently the intramural field, which is located near the Stonehenge parking lot, is under reconstruction, and receiving the long overdue improvements. The new field will be located near the intramural field next to the Stonehenge parking lot. Already, trees where the new field is planned to be located are being cleared.

The intramural field hosts the rugby, soccer and lacrosse teams. According to Tom Archer, the plan is that all of the fields will be regulation size fields.

"I have my fingers crossed that the new field and the intramural field will be ready in the fall of 2008 so that the sports can be played as scheduled," Ummer said.

With more regulation fields available, the utilization will be spread out and the fields will be in better condition.

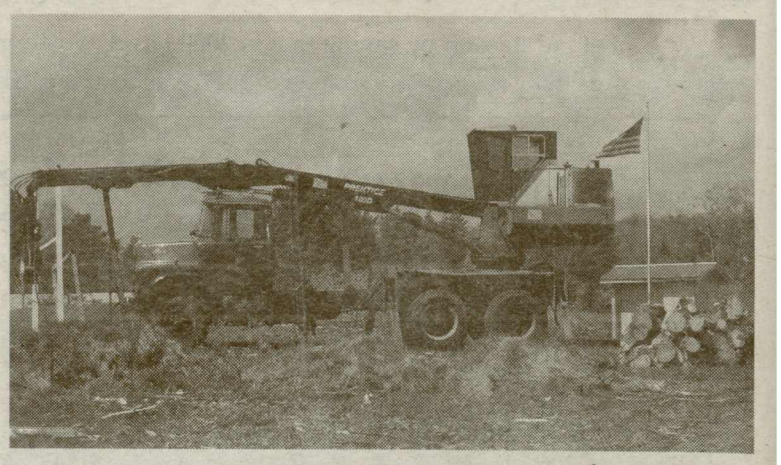


Photo by Ryan Lee

Above: A logging machine sits next to a stack of logs on the rugby field. Renovations are underway on both the rugby and soccer fields.

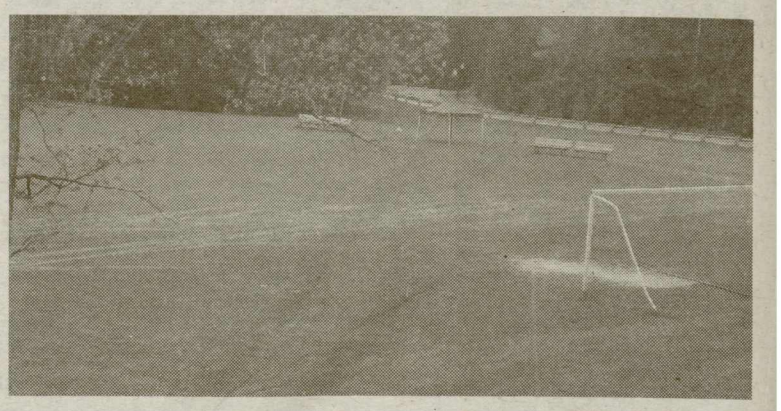


Photo by Ryan Lee

A.D. Chris Ummer says the soccer field was in such bad shape this past fall the soccer teams had to practice at the Lyndon Town School.

LSC Athletics hires new soccer coach, seeking new basketball coach

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

The Hornets have found one new coach and are looking to find another.

Jim Davis, the husband of administrative assistant Traci Davis, has been hired as the new head coach for women's soccer. The athletic department is still searching for a new head coach for men's basketball.

Former head coach Miles Etter decided to leave because he found that it was more difficult to balance both his full-time job and coaching, according to Athletic Director Chris Ummer. Ummer was very appreciative of the job Etter did as head coach.

"He did a wonderful job," Ummer said. "He raised the bar for the program, and he did it effectively. Under his tenure, the women had their most success, by far."

Davis, who graduated from North Country Union High School and Middlebury College, was hired because of his vision for the future of the school's women's soccer program.

"As much as Miles raised the bar, I'd like to see that bar continue to be raised," Ummer said. He added that part of Davis' vision for the team is to make it competitive with any Division III program in New England.

Because of confidentiality issues, Ummer couldn't name who the other three candidates were for the position. He did say that all of them were "external to New England," including one from Britain.

As for the former men's basketball head coach Randy Rathburn, the athletic department decided to go in a different direction in terms of leadership in the coaching position, according to Ummer.

This move follows the team's struggles each of the last two years. One of the candidates for the position is Assistant Coach and Sports Information Director Bill Johnson. Ummer confirmed that Johnson has submitted an application for the job, but again because of confidentiality issues, couldn't name any other candidates. Because of his candidacy for the position, Johnson was unable to comment.

Ummer says that he's forming a search committee, which will begin looking for a new coach within the next one to two weeks. The athletic department hopes to have a new coach in place by the beginning of June.

While the athletic department would like to see all its varsity sports have winning teams, Ummer says that the student athletes' experiences are even more important.

"We'd like to see all our student athletes have a positive experience with every component of every program. The head coach plays a pretty key role in that," Ummer said.

Ummer is very hopeful that the new coach will make the team more competitive next season, when the athletic programs begin competition in the North Atlantic Conference.

"We got a lot of talent on the men's basketball team. We got a lot of returning talent," Ummer said, adding that recruiting is a very large part in the team's success.

"You bring in good folks with people who have good knowledge, that's a lethal weapon," when it comes to having winning programs, Ummer says.

Hornet baseball, softball teams earn bids to national tournaments

By Andrew R. Koch
Sports Editor

The Lyndon State baseball and softball teams have earned bids to go to the national tournaments for the first time in recent memory.

This year was the baseball team's first winning season in over ten years. The team has recently caught fire on their way to earning the bid.

Three weeks ago, the Hornets were on the outside looking in at a bid, as they were two games below .500. The team has won eight out of their last 11 games, including back-to-back doubleheader sweeps against UMaine-Farmington. The softball team has won five out of their last eight games and has had a winning record since April 12.

"I can't even explain how I feel right now," senior captain Angel Phelps said. "I'm honored to be a part of this team. This is the best thing to happen to me in college sports."

"This will be great for me to finish out my last year ever of playing fast-pitch softball by going to the national championship as a number one seed," said senior pitcher Ashlea Bourdon.

Bourdon and junior catcher Sara Fetterhoff will each be going to their second national tournament this year, to go with their appearance at the USCAA women's national basketball championship earlier this year.

Bourdon says she's more excited for this tournament because softball is her sport, and that she's worked hard to reach this level. Fetterhoff thinks this string of national championship appearances by the school's women's sports teams shows how strong the women's sports programs are here at LSC.

"It's good to finally get some recognition," Fetterhoff said, adding that she enjoys the camaraderie of her teammates. She also had some advice for her teammates about what it's like to go to a national tournament.

"The goal is to win a few games, if not the championship. It's not a vacation. The school is sending you to make a name for it," Fetterhoff said.

Junior left-hander Matt Picard of the fourth-seeded baseball team has enjoyed the offensive support he's received in his recent starts. He and junior right-hander Jesse Ballard led the team in wins.

"It's been phenomenal," Picard said. "We got hit after hit. The offense got big hits from everyone in the lineup, especially big two-out hits." It hasn't been just Picard and Ballard leading the way in the rotation; it was everyone on the staff, as well as everyone on offense.

"The whole team in general has done well, on both offense and defense," Picard said.

Head coach Ryan Farley praised his players' mental toughness when they caught fire on their way to clinching their tournament bid.

"The guys made a decision and they wouldn't be denied," Farley said. "We put a lot of work into it. It's nice to see it pay dividends, especially for the seniors."

Farley says that after the struggles of the last couple of years, it's rewarding to know that he was doing the right things and was putting the team in a position to be successful.

"It's nice to know there's something after the regular season," Farley said. "It's nice for the seniors who experienced the hardships."

The softball team will be in Illinois for their tournament this weekend, while the baseball team will leave for Virginia tomorrow.

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